

The Wilson Times

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Reward offered in Wilson home break-ins

By Olivia Neeley
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Authorities are offering a \$1,000 reward leading to the arrests of those responsible in a string of home burglaries that have occurred since December in west Wilson.

The Wilson Police Department and Crime Stoppers are offering the reward in hopes the public will come forward with information that can help police solve the cases.

Since Dec. 1, police have investigated numerous home burglaries in areas along N.C. 42 West to Forest Hills Road as well

as Tarboro Street to Glendale Drive.

Sgt. Steve Stroud said police are still receiving reports of burglaries in areas including Wynfall Lane, Walnut Creek Drive, Boyette Drive, St. Christopher Circle and Katherine Court.

He said while detectives are actively investigating the burglaries, they are requesting help from the community. He said investigative efforts have yet to identify additional suspects in connection to the crimes. And Crime Stoppers agreed to pay the \$1,000 reward.

“You can call anonymously,” he said. “Your information is all that is needed.”

The burglaries in the area of N.C. 42 West area are happening between 6 and 10 p.m., said Capt. Keith Pendergrass. He said investigators would like to get tips and calls from residents if they see anything unusual in their neighborhoods.

Burglars are gaining access from the back of these homes and then stealing electronics, officials said.

Police encourage residents to remain vigilant by following these tips:

- Report all suspicious people and vehicles to 911 at the time you see them. Don’t wait to call.
- Get detailed information on suspicious

people and vehicles

- Be good neighbors and look out for each other during the daytime and night-time hours
- Do not leave boxes indicating newly purchased items outdoors or in places where visible to passersby
- Close all curtains and blinds when not at home to conceal appliances

Anyone with information regarding these cases can contact the Wilson Police Department at 252-399-2323 or Crime Stoppers at 252-243-2255. Information leading to arrests in these cases will result in a cash reward from Crime Stoppers.

A repeat performance

Nathan Barnes takes top honors in Wilson County Spelling Bee



By Drew C. Wilson
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Nathan Barnes is now a two-time winner of the Wilson County Spelling Bee.

The 14-year-old eighth-grader captured the prize in 14 rounds by spelling the 187th word, efficacy.

The annual event, sponsored by The Wilson Times, brought 54 students from area public, private, charter and home schools together at Barton College’s Hardy Alumni Hall.

Dressed in a Pink Floyd T-shirt, shorts and wearing a Stetson cap, Barnes appeared relaxed.

“It was not nearly as long as last year,” Barnes said afterward.

In the 2017 contest, it took 72 rounds to determine the winner.

As the winner in 2018, Nathan will travel again to the nation’s capital city to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee scheduled May 27-June 2.

“I can’t wait to tell all of my friends,” said Nathan, who is homeschooled in Wilson.

Beatrice Sangangbayan, a seventh-grader from Sallie B. Howard School for the Arts and Education, earned second place in the competition.

“To be honest, I didn’t really think I would get this far,” Beatrice said. “I really didn’t have enough practice, but I am so excited. Next year I’m going to get it. Next year I’m going to get first.”

Liam Carden, a sixth-grader from Wilson Preparatory Academy, took third place.

Nathan received a trophy for his win and all of the place finishers received a set of virtual reality goggles.

Nathan said he will spend about an hour and a half every morning preparing for the national spelling bee.

“I’ll try to learn all of the prefixes and suffixes and then I will get to a few specific ones,”

United Way tops \$1.2 million in donations

Maj. Scott Biddle, Gary Proffitt honored with service awards

By Olivia Neeley
olivia@wilsontimes.com | 252-265-7879

The United Way of Wilson County recognized campaign volunteers, presented awards and celebrated this year’s success during its 58th annual meeting Thursday.

The campaign raised \$1,271,610 in donations and reached 99 percent of its goal of \$1,285,000. Matt Whitley, 2018 president of the United Way board of directors, said the United Way couldn’t achieve its mission without support from those in the community.

“It takes a team, a collaborative effort and partners,” Whitley said. He said the ultimate goal is to help those in the Wilson community and identifying what those needs are.

This year’s theme was Building a Stronger Community Together.

Judi Thurston, the United Way of Wilson County’s executive director, told the crowd that none of this would be possible without the volunteers who make each year a success.

“It’s been another exciting year,” she said. “We are really hear to say thank you.”

Thurston said United Way leaders appreciate all the contributions and hard work.

“There are so many needs in this community,” she said, adding that those needs couldn’t be met without the support of many and the organizations who work tirelessly to make a difference each day.

“We appreciate you sharing the message,” Thurston said.

Nathan Barnes smiles after winning his second consecutive Wilson County Spelling Bee Thursday at Barton College’s Hardy Alumni Hall. Drew C. Wilson | Times

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See MEETING, Page 5A

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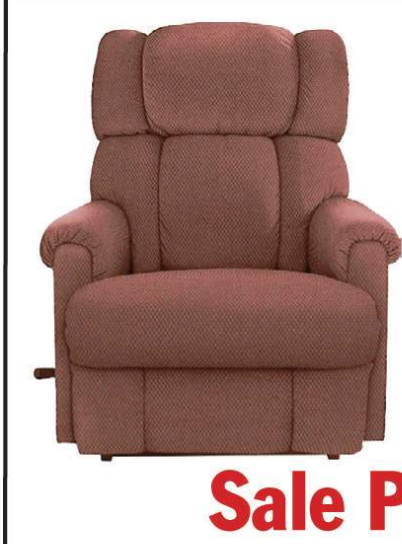


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OBITUARIES

Pantice Parks Smith Ingram Fish

July 29, 1934 — Feb. 13, 2018

Pantice “Pat” Parks Smith Ingram Fish, 83, of Venice, Florida and Pine Knoll Shores, and formerly of Wilson, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Venice Hospice House in Florida.

The funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018, with visitation prior to the service from 2 to 3 p.m. at Wilson Memorial Service. The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. Charles J. Robl III.

Pat Fish

Pat was born in Wayne County on July 29, 1934, to the late Joseph Polk Parks and Adeline Gurley Parks. She retired from a long career in education, in Wilson and Johnston counties. She was a graduate of Atlantic Christian College and East Carolina University. She was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma sorority.

In addition to her parents, Pat was preceded in death by her husbands, Ross Ingram and James Fish. She was also preceded in death by her siblings, Mable Osborne, Osborne Parks, Clifton Earl Parks, Carlton Parks, Mary Virginia Uzzell, Josephine Webb and Ruby Ann Parks; and grandson, Cameron Register.

She is survived by her daughter, Dana Sceeny, and husband, Martin, of Morehead City; son, Wes Smith, and wife, Connie, of Raleigh; grandson, Daniel Register of Charlotte; and granddaughter, Emily Smith of Raleigh; sister, Betty Moore of Raleigh; brother, Samuel Parks of Goldsboro; and several nieces and nephews, whom she adored greatly.

Pat lived life to the fullest. She enjoyed traveling the world and spending her summers in Pine Knoll Shores. Later in life, she retired to Venice where she led an active lifestyle, enjoying big band music and dancing.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to a charity of one’s choice.

Arrangements are by Wilson Memorial Service, 2811 Fieldstream Drive N., Wilson, www.wilson-memorialservice.com.

Ruby Nell Lucas

Sept. 29, 1917 — Feb. 15, 2018

RALEIGH — Ruby N. Lucas, 100, passed away Thursday. A graveside service will be conducted 11 a.m. Saturday in Contentnea Church Cemetery, 5029 N.C. 42 West, Wilson. Elder Steve Creech will officiate.

Ruby is survived by her sister, Frances Lucas of Raleigh.

Anyone wishing to make a donation in Ruby’s memory, please send to Transitions HospiceCare, 250 Hospice Circle, Raleigh, NC 27607 or to a charity’s of one’s choice.

Condolences may be directed to Joyner’s Funeral Home at www.joyners.net.

Ronald C. Pugh Sr.

May 28, 1943 — Feb. 15, 2018

STANTONSBURG — Ronald C. Pugh Sr., 74, passed away Thursday. Funeral services will be conducted 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018, at Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home, 2704 Nash St. N., Wilson, with the Rev. William O’Neal officiating. Interment will follow in Evergreen Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends 1 - 1:45 p.m. Sunday at Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home.

Ronald C. Pugh Sr.

Ronald was a veteran of the United Sates Navy. He worked as a truck driver for 45 years, retiring from Estes Express Lines. Ronald attended Wilson First Pentecostal Holiness Church. He served as a volunteer fire-fighter with the Moyton Volunteer Fire Department in Stantonsburg and also served as a captain with Stantonsburg EMS. Ronald was dearly loved and will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret O. Pugh; one son, Ronald C. Pugh Jr. (Susan) of Wilson; one daughter, Sharon Pugh Price (Michael) of Wilson; five grandchildren, Tracey Pugh, David Price, Allen Pugh, Kimberly Pugh and Hannah Price; a great-granddaughter, Madalyn Pugh; a brother, Tony Pugh (Janice) of Engelhard; and a sister, Lynette Sawyer (Howard) of Pamlico Beach.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Norville and Hilda Hodges Pugh; and a sister, Jean Gibbs.

Funeral services are under the direction of Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home, Wilson. Online condolences may be sent to www.thomasyelverton.com.

Carol Lynn Barnes-Limberg

May 2, 1967 — Feb. 13, 2018

NEW BERN — Carol Lynn Barnes-Limberg, 50, passed away Tuesday. A graveside service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday in Soloman Lamm Cemetery, St. Mary’s Church Road, Lucama.

Carol is survived by her daughter, Chelsey Limberg; and son, Kris Limberg, both of New Bern; her parents, Sandy and Carolyn Barnes of Kinston; a brother, Jeffrey Taylor Barnes, and wife, Julie, of New Bern; and her nieces, Katie and Elizabeth Barnes of New Bern.

Condolences may be directed to Joyner’s Funeral Home at www.joyners.net.

Mary E. Joyner

FARMVILLE — Mary E. Joyner, 96, died Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018. Arrangements are by Stevens Funeral Home, Wilson.

Alice S. Edwards

Alice S. Edwards, 76, of Wilson, died Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018. Arrangements are by Edwards Funeral Home.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1961: United States launched the Explorer 9 satellite

Today is Friday, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 2018. There are 318 days left in the year. This is the Chinese New Year of the Dog.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On Feb. 16, 1968, the nation’s first 911 emergency telephone system was inaugurated in Haleyville, Alabama, as the speaker of the Alabama House, Rankin Fite, placed a call from the mayor’s office in City Hall to a red telephone at the police station (also located in City Hall) that was answered by U.S. Rep. Tom Bevill.

On this date:

In 1804, Lt. Stephen Decatur led a successful raid into Tripoli Harbor to burn the U.S. Navy frigate Philadelphia, which had fallen into the hands of pirates during the First Barbary War.

In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Fort Donelson in Tennessee ended as some 12,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered; Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant’s victory earned him the moniker “Unconditional Surrender Grant.”

In 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was organized in New York City.

In 1918, Lithuania proclaimed its independence from the Russian Empire. (Lithuania, which was occupied by the Soviet Union, then Nazi Germany, then the Soviet Union again during World War II, renewed its independence in 1990).

In 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen’s recently unearthed tomb was unsealed in Egypt by English archaeologist Howard Carter.

In 1937, Du Pont research chemist Dr. Wallace H. Carothers, inventor of nylon, received a patent for the synthetic fiber, described as “linear condensation polymers.”

In 1945, American troops landed on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines during World War II.

In 1959, Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba a month and a-half after the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

In 1961, the United States launched the Explorer 9 satellite.

In 1977, Janani Luwum, the Anglican archbishop of Uganda, died in what Ugandan authorities said was an automobile accident, although it’s generally believed that he was shot to death by agents of Idi Amin.

In 1988, seven people were shot to death during an office rampage in Sunnyvale, California, by a man obsessed with a co-worker who was wounded in the attack. (The gunman is on death row.)

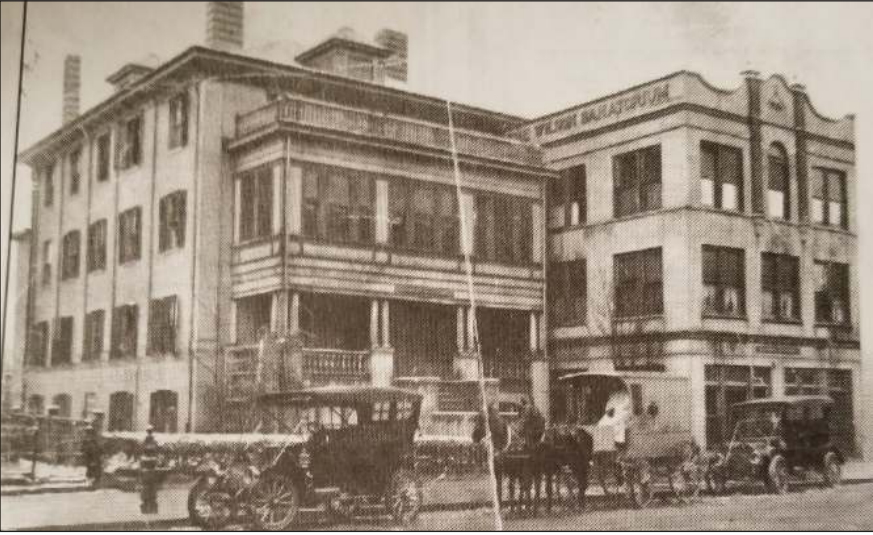
In 1998, a China Airlines Airbus A300 trying to land in fog near Taipei, Taiwan, crashed, killing all 196 people on board, plus seven on the ground.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, on a six-day tour of Africa, made his first stop in Benin before flying on to Tanzania. John McCain, the presumed Republican presidential nominee, picked up a total of 50 GOP national convention delegates from Michigan and Louisiana. A car plowed into a group of street-racing fans obscured by a cloud of tire smoke on an isolated Maryland highway, killing eight people in the early morning darkness.

Five years ago: Gunmen attacked a camp for a construction company in rural northern Nigeria, killing a guard and kidnapping seven workers from Lebanon, Britain, Greece and Italy; the kidnappers later claimed to have killed the hostages. Billy Hunter was ousted as executive director of the National Basketball Players Association by NBA players. Tony Sheridan, 72, a British singer who performed with the Beatles during their early years in Germany, died in Hamburg.

One year ago: In the first full-length news conference of his presidency, Donald Trump denounced what he called the “criminal” leaks that took down his top national security adviser, Michael Flynn. President Trump named Alexander Acosta as his new choice for labor secretary, a day after Andrew Puzder abruptly withdrew. Immigrants around the U.S. stayed home from work and school to demonstrate how important they were to America’s economy, and many businesses closed in solidarity. A California man pleaded guilty in federal court in Riverside to providing the high-powered rifles used to kill 14 people in the 2015 San Bernardino terror attack (sentencing is expected later this year).

Today’s Birthdays: Jazz/pop singer-actress Peggy King is 88. Actor Jeremy Bulloch is 73. Actor William Katt is 67. Rhythm-and-blues singer James Ingram is 66. Actor LeVar Burton is 61. Actor-rapper Ice-T is 60. Actress Lisa Loring is 60. International Tennis Hall of Famer John McEnroe is 59. Rock musician Andy Taylor is 57. Rock musician Dave Lombardo (Slayer) is 53. Actress Sarah Clarke is 47. Olympic gold medal runner Cathy Freeman is 45. Actor Mahershala Ali is 44. Singer Sam Salter is 43. Electronic dance music artist Bassnectar is 40. Rapper Lupe Fiasco is 36. Actress Chloe Wepper is 32. Pop-rock singer Ryan Follese (FAHL’-eh-say) (Hot Chelle (SHEL) Rae) is 31. Rock musician Danielle Haim (HYM) is 29. Actress Elizabeth Olsen is 29. Actor Mike Weinberg is 25.



Remember When?

John Taylor shared this photo from The Wilson Daily Times archives showing the Wilson Sanatorium circa 1910. The Wilson Times is publishing historical photos of Wilson County life and landmarks in this space each day. To share your snapshots, email the picture and caption to Lori Parrish at lori@wilsontimes.com with the subject line Remember When or bring it to the Times office at 126 Nash St. during regular business hours.



The Wilson Golden Circle Optimist Club donated \$1,600 to the Free Will Baptist Children’s Home in Middlesex on Feb. 10. The contribution will support youth summer programs and field trips for children’s home residents. Pictured from left are Carrie Brown of the children’s home and Sara Robbins, Dot Windham and Joy Belle Finch from the Golden Circle Optimist Club.

Contributed Photo

Optimists support Baptist children’s home

State health officials report 17 new flu deaths

The Associated Press

RALEIGH — State health officials said Thursday 17 more people have died from the flu in North Carolina, the fifth straight week in which more than 10 people have died from the virus.

There were no pediatric deaths in the latest report issued by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.

The death toll for the 2017-18 season is 165, including 132 deaths in the last five weeks.

Experts say this season nationwide is now as bad as the swine flu epidemic nine years ago.

According to a government report released last Friday, 1 of every 13 visits to the doctor last week was for fever, cough and other symptoms of the flu. That ties the highest level seen in the U.S. during swine flu in 2009.

And it surpasses every winter flu season since 2003, when the government changed the way it measures flu.

“I wish that there were better news this week, but almost everything we’re looking at is bad news,” said Dr. Anne Schuchat, acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Flu season usually takes off in late December and peaks around February. This season started early and was widespread in many states by December. Early last month, it hit what seemed like peak levels — but then continued to surge.

Last week, North Carolina reported 39 flu-related deaths.

This year’s flu virus tends to put more people in the hospital and cause more deaths. Still, its long-lasting intensity has surprised experts, who are still sorting out why it’s been so bad. One possibility is that the vaccine is doing an unusually poor job.

LOTTERY RESULTS

Wednesday, February 14

Carolina Pick 3
Daytime— 7-7-3, SUM: 17
Carolina Pick 3
Evening— 1-8-3, SUM: 12
Carolina Pick 4
Daytime— 3-9-3-8, SUM: 23
Carolina Pick 4
Evening— 3-7-3-3, SUM: 16
Carolina Cash 5
4-7-10-21-22

Meeting: United Way applauds city of Wilson, Fresenius Kabi, Bridgestone and BB&T

continued from page 1A

LEON WILSON HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The Leon Wilson Humanitarian Award is named after a former United Way president and friend who was not only a leader in his career with BB&T, but was also a true leader in the Wilson community.

Wilson believed in giving back to the community and to leave the world better than the way he found it. This year's award went to Wilson Police Maj. Scott Biddle, who is truly involved in the community, Whitley said.

"His career and volunteer service both keep him connected to our citizens and organizations who are in need of assistance," Whitley said. "He is the perfect example of walking the walk."

Whitley said Biddle is a dedicated volunteer and leader.

"He definitely has a big heart for important issues that affect Wilson," he added. Whitley said Biddle not only led the United Way campaign, but recruited Salvation Army bell-ringers through the Rotary Club of Wilson and is an advocate and leader with the Police Athletics and Activities League.

MARCIA PARKER VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

The Marcia Parker Volunteer Service Award, named after the United Way's former executive director, goes to the most dedicated and effective

volunteer in the campaign. This year's award went to Gary Proffitt.

Whitley said Proffitt is truly dedicated to helping those who are less fortunate.

"There are many people that will step up wherever and whenever they see the need and make things happen," he said. Whitley said Proffitt is always on a mission collecting food for area pantries or raising money for a particular nonprofit cause.

"It takes a special volunteer to reach out to new and unexplored sources for support and donations," he said. Whitley said the United Way created a new division during this year's campaign entitled "miscellaneous," which included individuals and some businesses that most likely had not been contacted previously.

Under Proffitt's leadership, that division reached 123 percent of its goal.

SPIRIT OF WILSON AWARD

City of Wilson employees and Fresenius Kabi employees both received the Spirit of Wilson Award. The award, which is in honor of Wilson Crisis Center Executive Director Nancy Sallenger, represents those who have demonstrated great enthusiasm and commitment to the United Way during the campaign.

City of Wilson employees held multiple events to bring attention to their campaign. One event raised an extra \$2,000 for their campaign alone. The employee campaign raised \$108,388 this year, which

is their largest total ever, Whitley said. He said the city has a per capita gift of \$151.80 and saw a 7 percent increase in fair share contributors.

"They say that United Way is their biggest investment in our community," he said.

Fresenius Kabi had two dedicated employee volunteers who stepped up to the plate and ran with their company's campaign as well. They spent weekends cutting out wooden patterns for 50 birdhouses, decorated each of them and held a silent auction. Employees also held a chili cook-off.

"This group held learning and sharing sessions about United Way and their agencies," Whitley said. The company also had their own angel tree and collected winter coats, scarves and gloves that were distributed to children in Wilson County Schools.

EXTRA EFFORT AWARD

Bridgestone Americas and BB&T each received the Extra Effort Award during Thursday's luncheon. Whitley said Bridgestone is the largest employee contributor in the entire campaign with \$256,000 to Wilson County.

"They also have 400 leadership contributors giving \$500 or more to the campaign," he added. He said the company has various events to increase its campaign total, including bake sales and chili cook-offs.

BB&T is the largest corporate contributor, Whitley

said.

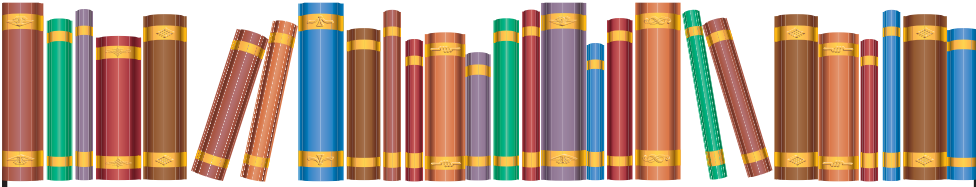
"They also have 117 leadership contributors giving \$500 or more," he said.

BB&T is celebrating its 10th year in offering Lighthouse Projects to local nonprofits. There have

been nearly 200 projects submitted to employees to choose from this year alone.

"Wilson nonprofits have benefited greatly by the generous donations of time and resources to help

improve their work environments, beautification of buildings and classrooms and added equipment and electronics to make everyday responsibilities much more enjoyable," Whitley said.



Accepting Donations of Children's Books

to the Little Library Project organized by the Wilson Chamber of Commerce Dynamic Leadership Class

Donations accepted at

The Wilson Times

126 Nash Street in Historic Downtown Wilson

Cornerstone Bank

3710 Nash Street N, Wilson



First Citizens Bank

2301 Nash Street NW, Wilson
3129 Raleigh Road Parkway W, Wilson



6415 Southern Village Drive, Wilson



Wilson police Maj. Scott Biddle accepts the Leon Wilson Humanitarian Award Thursday during the United Way of Wilson County's annual meeting. Biddle, who is also the 2017 campaign chairman, was recognized for his role as a dedicated volunteer and leader. Janelle Clevinger | Special to The Times

Man who feared 'hoodlums' on trial for shooting black man

By Jonathan Drew
The Associated Press

RALEIGH — An unarmed black man shot by a white homeowner who complained about "hoodlums" in his neighborhood was killed on a rare night when he decided to go to a house party instead of staying home to play video games, the victim's friends testified Thursday.

Their testimony followed opening statements in the murder trial of Chad Copley, who fired a shotgun blast from inside his Raleigh, North Carolina, garage and killed 20-year-old Kouren Thomas in August 2016.

Prosecutors argued in opening statements that Copley appeared bent on violence when he called 911 to say he was "locked and loaded" to confront what he described as armed "hoodlums" outside his house.

Defense attorneys countered that Copley, 40, was concerned about the safety of his wife and children after two people leaving a nearby house party showed him their guns. Copley faces up to life in prison without parole if convicted of first-degree murder.

A friend of the victim, David Walker, testified that they had arrived at the house party a couple of doors down from Copley's

home to find "that it was basically boring." Walker also said he saw no one with weapons, nor anyone fighting.

They were making plans to leave when Thomas, spooked by a police cruiser at a nearby traffic stop, began jogging back toward Walker's car. It was then that Thomas was hit by the shotgun blast from Copley near the man's mailbox at the edge of the yard, Walker testified.

"He spun around after getting shot and told everybody to call 911," Walker said, describing his friend. "He just started screaming: 'Help! Call 911.'"

Walker then ran to alert the officer involved in the unrelated traffic stop.

Walker testified that Thomas, known for reminding everyone to fasten their seatbelts in the car, usually preferred to stay in and play video games. Walker said that the night Thomas was killed was the only time he could recall his friend going to a house party.

The victim's mother sobbed quietly in the first row of the courtroom as Walker spoke, and a sheriff's deputy handed her a box of tissues.

Another friend who went to the party with them, Chris Malone, said he ran to Thomas as he lay bleeding

in the grass of Copley's yard and tried to comfort him.

Malone testified he "just tried to keep him up; let him know I was there." Malone said he told Thomas to "try to keep fighting, keep breathing."

Defense attorney Brad Polk told the racially diverse jury that Copley had seen weapons displayed by two people who apparently left the party before Thomas. One brandished a gun in Copley's yard, Polk said.

Polk, who acknowledged his client fired the fatal shot, said his client will testify about why he feared for his safety.

"Wait until Mr. Copley tells you himself what happened," he said.

Prosecutor Patrick LaTour said it's Copley's own words, captured on a 911 call before the shooting, that show he was taking matters into his own hands instead of waiting for police. The shooting happened in Copley's subdivision of two-story homes in the northeastern stretches of Raleigh.

Recordings of the calls made headlines when they were released days after the 2016 shooting.

"We've got a bunch of hoodlums out here racing," Copley tells the dispatcher. "I'm locked and loaded. I'm going outside to secure my neighborhood."

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Man vacillates over inviting late wife’s mom to wedding



DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: My wife passed away two years ago at age 40 after a long bout with cancer. We had three children, ages 7 to 12. I am 44 and engaged now to a wonderful woman. We are planning to have a small wedding with fewer than 50 guests.

While the kids and I are doing well, my late wife’s mother, “Karen,” is still grieving. She has a forceful personality and can be quite pushy. She lives nearby.

We have not finalized the arrangements or sent out invitations. Karen has been asking if she and my former father-in-law are invited, but we haven’t answered her yet. She says she’s hurt because she feels we don’t want her there.

Is it proper etiquette to invite the parents of a deceased spouse to a remarriage? The only people she would know aside from us would be my parents, who need to bond with my fiancée’s family who are coming from out of town. The kids seem to not care either way. If it were me, I’d feel awkward being there. Help! — *Looking To The Future In Illinois*

Dear Looking: Although your late wife is gone, her parents are still your children’s grandparents and therefore should be treated as part of your family. While you might feel awkward if you were in their position, consider how hurt they will be if they are not included on the guest list. The decision whether to attend should be theirs to make.

Welcome them and treat them with kindness. A wife can be “replaced,” but a daughter cannot, which is why Karen is still grieving even though you have gone on with your life.

DEAR ABBY: I need advice on how to deal with a friend/neighbor’s messy, unkempt backyard. We are getting ready to put our house on the market, and I’m concerned their yard may be a deterrent to potential buyers. Their pool looks like a swamp, and various pieces of lawn furniture are strewn about the yard. Tables are turned upside down and random items are thrown about.

They are friends of ours, but I have no clue how to broach such a sensitive topic without upsetting them. Please help. — *Living Next To A Swamp*

Dear Living: Because those neighbors are friends, I assume they are aware that you are selling your home. If you

live in an area that’s prone to any dangerous mosquito-borne viruses, you would be doing them a favor to point out that their pool equipment needs fixing because still water makes an excellent breeding place for mosquitoes.

As to the state of their yard, your real estate agent may have some suggestions about how to handle that. If you and your spouse volunteer to help your neighbors make it more attractive, they might be receptive. However, if they refuse and you live in a community with a neighborhood association that regulates how properties must look in order to preserve their value, consider bringing this to its attention.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: “Abby’s Favorite Recipes” and “More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447 (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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Evidence suggests popular supplements not needed for bone health



ASK THE DOCTORS

DEAR DOCTOR: If vitamin D and calcium don’t reduce the risk of bone fractures in older adults, as I recently read, is there any point in taking them?

Dear Reader: For years, the medical community has been touting calcium and vitamin D to prevent fractures; I’ve been guilty of this practice as well. Although some studies suggested that calcium and vitamin D could help prevent osteoporosis, the degree of improvement was never overwhelming. Still, we held fast to our medical dogma. Now, as you mention, a study has shown the need to look at the data without bias in order to provide more nuanced counsel to our patients.

The research, recently published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), reviewed 33 studies — with a total of 51,145 participants — assessing the risk of fractures in people taking either calcium alone, vitamin D alone or calcium with vitamin D.

The calcium-only studies included various types of the mineral: calcium citrate, carbonate, malate and

gluconate. The seven studies assessing the impact on hip fractures showed no improvement with the use of calcium. In fact, researchers found a 53 percent increase in the risk of hip fractures among people taking calcium. The findings on spinal fractures were more positive. Nine studies assessed that connection, finding a 17 percent decrease in risk with calcium use. Seven studies assessed total fracture rate, finding a 12 percent decrease in risk, but the rate was not considered statistically significant.

The studies that assessed the specific impact of vitamin D similarly failed to produce positive results. In the nine studies of vitamin D use and hip fracture, researchers found a 21 percent increase in the risk of fracture among those taking vitamin D. The studies assessing the impact on spinal fracture and total fractures simply found no benefit.

The studies assessing the impact of calcium combined with vitamin D yielded only marginally better results. Although the seven studies looking at the impact on hip fractures found no reduction in risk, the three studies looking only at spinal fractures did show a 37 percent reduction in risk. The studies that looked at total fracture rate showed a non-significant 10 percent reduc-

tion in risk.

The 33 trials varied in length from four months up to seven years. Of note, many studies conducted for longer periods were more likely to show a reduction in the risk of spinal fractures with the use of calcium or vitamin D, which may be because calcium and vitamin D are slow to improve bone density.

The JAMA study did not specifically look at people with osteoporosis. For them, calcium has been shown effective in maintaining bone density. A 1992 study of female nursing home residents (who have a higher likelihood of osteoporosis) found that calcium and vitamin D decreased the rate of hip fracture by 43 percent and the overall fracture rate by 32 percent.

So, if you have osteoporosis, I would recommend calcium and vitamin D. If you’re a healthy person without osteoporosis, calcium and vitamin D may produce a slight decrease in the risk of spinal fracture. Overall, however, there seems to be little benefit to this supplementation.

Robert Ashley, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles.

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Controlling blood sugar could benefit sex life



PEOPLE'S PHARMACY

Q. I have read that high blood sugar can contribute to erectile dysfunction. My wife died more than two years ago, but I now have a lady friend. I want to be able to perform if called upon.

Can you tell me about natural ways to reduce my blood sugar levels? I do use a lot of sugar in my morning coffee, and I drink more soda pop than water.

A. Elevated blood sugar can affect blood vessels that are essential for erections, just as it affects blood vessels in other parts of the body (Journal of Sexual Medicine, December 2015). So you are wise to look for ways to control your blood sugar.

If you have been diagnosed with diabetes, we urge you to follow your doctor’s advice and take the medications that have been prescribed. If, however, you are trying to keep your blood sugar down though it isn’t yet at the level of diabetes, there are several things you can do.

You might want to experiment with stevia instead of sugar to sweeten your morning coffee. Adding some cinnamon to the coffee grounds also could be helpful.

Try to change the ratio of water to soft drinks. Sugar-sweetened beverages provide a lot of empty calories. To get blood sugar down, you’ll want

to reduce the amount of sugar and refined carbs in your diet. Exercise also is crucial for good blood sugar control. Certain herbs may be helpful: bitter melon, fenugreek or nopal cactus could help you maintain normal blood sugar.

We are sending you our “Guide to Managing Diabetes” for more details on these supplements and our 10 key steps for keeping diabetes in check. They work for people with prediabetes, too. Anyone who would like a copy, please send \$3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (71 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons’ People’s Pharmacy, No. DM-11, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for \$2 from our website: www.peoplespharmacy.com.

Q. Many years ago, one of my customers told me that her doctor suggested that she begin drinking kefir daily if she wanted to stop getting sick. Not having any idea what the heck kefir was, I nodded and said that was interesting. Then I promptly forgot about it.

A couple of years later, I had a tough time with a respiratory infection. I noticed kefir in the natural section of our grocery store. I remembered what she’d said and bought some. Long story short: It worked.

I haven’t been sick for more than two years now. I now make my own water-based kefir so I can drink it every day. Certainly, other things help,

too: sensible hand-washing, along with more home-cooked meals with lots of veggies and leafy greens.

My husband thinks I am nuts brewing kefir, but he drinks it when he gets sick. He gets over his bug quickly, but he has to drink some every day.

The healthy bacteria living in the kefir apparently diversify your gut bacteria, helping you protect yourself from germs. From my experience, this works best as a preventative or when consumed as soon as you know you are getting sick. You don’t have to drink the entire carton all at once, just a few sips throughout your day.

A. Most of the research on kefir (ku-FEER) apparently has focused on its ability to help people ward off nasty intestinal bacteria, such as salmonella and E. coli (Journal of Dairy Research, August 2017). Components of this fermented milk product activate human immune cells in tissue culture (International Journal of Immunopathology and Pharmacology, December 2015). The investigators suggest that this might mean kefir consumption could help in fighting viral infections.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Write to them in care of King Features, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803, or email them via their website: www.PeoplesPharmacy.com. Their newest book is “Top Screwups Doctors Make and How to Avoid Them.”

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The Wilson Times

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER — A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION SINCE 1896

Morgan Dickerman PUBLISHER
Keven Zepezauer GENERAL MANAGER

Corey Friedman EDITOR
Lisa Boykin Batts ASSOCIATE EDITOR

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. (Ezekiel 47:9)

PRAYER: Dear Lord, help us never forget the power of your word that flows into our hearts, feeding and renewing us every day. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Why we still need Black History Month

Black History Month is sometimes treated like an unwanted stepchild. There are those who argue that the contributions of African-Americans should be honored all year, not segregated into a page of the calendar. Sometimes Black History Month material is well-meaning but wrong. Doreen St. Felix, in The New Yorker, noted that millions of schoolchildren learn that George Washington Carver invented peanut butter. Carver, a pioneering plant scientist, found dozens of uses for peanuts (and soybeans and sweet potatoes, too), but peanut butter was not one of them. It was probably invented by the Aztecs.

Then there is the poor argument that Black History Month is no longer needed; maybe never was. The Civil Rights Act, after all, was passed more than 50 years ago. A black man was elected president. Inequality no longer exists, the argument goes, so Black History Month is unnecessary and divides us.

Yet inequality has not gone away. Yes, things are better for African-Americans than they were 50 years ago. And although racism now manifests itself — for the most part — in more subtle and even unintended ways, the legacy of 300 years of slavery, oppression and denial of a people’s basic humanity is not easily erased. Nor can the effects of 75 years of Jim Crow, when African-Americans were shipped to separate schools that were horrendously unequal, and governments at all levels denied basic civil rights to an entire group of citizens.

What was easy to erase, however, was history — the history of the black experience in America, both the good and the bad. This was strikingly evident as we recently perused the archives of the Associated Press and, we are ashamed to admit, the StarNews, in search of photos and stories about black Americans.

We found little. Actually, “erased” is the wrong word. We found little because so little was ever documented and reported in the first place in both history books and the mass media. Other than athletes or the occasional entertainer, black Americans were Ralph Ellison’s “invisible man,” living in a racially divided society that refused to even recognize them as human beings. Some stories, of course, were not overlooked — when black people committed crimes or gathered to protest

injustices, it was well documented. But those articles seldom included their side of the story or acknowledged very legitimate grievances.

We need this time each February for one very simple reason — so we can at least try to fill in the many pages of our nation’s history that, when not left blank, were littered with half-truths and often flat-out lies.

We need this time each February so all of us, regardless of race or ethnicity, can learn the history of a people for whom it once was illegal to teach to read and write, making it nearly impossible for them to know and pass on their own history; a people for whom schools, when finally allowed, were seen merely as necessary training facilities for often-menial work.

Frankly, given the hurdles that were intentionally put before them, the accomplishments of African-Americans in public life are remarkable.

It’s important to remember Joseph McNeil, the Williston High School graduate who served his country in Vietnam, rose to major general in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and held executive posts in the Federal Aviation Administration.

McNeil was one of the four N.C. A&T students who walked into a Greensboro Woolworth’s in 1960, courageously sat down at the segregated lunch counter, and politely but firmly asked to be served. They braved arrest from police and abuse from white customers, but they, and others who joined them, stood their ground. The lunch stand eventually was desegregated. New history was being written — and being documented.

It’s important to remember that freedom is not free — that citizens must often take a stand to claim it, work long hours in the political process, engage in civil disobedience when needed, and at times, risk their very lives.

Maybe someday we won’t need a Black History Month. For now, however, far too many history pages remain blank, incomplete or simply false.

In dreary February, we nourish ourselves with the first blooms of forsythia or the erupting blades of an iris. It’s fitting, too, that each day during Black History Month, the sun’s arc journeys noticeably higher in the sky. So we also nourish ourselves with stories of strivers and heroes — black Americans who transformed their own lives, and changed the arc of history.

The StarNews of Wilmington



LETTERS

Pipeline could poison pristine drinking water

Even though my parents were from up north — Jersey City and Boston, New Jersey — they were strict on us. They had a keen sense of responsibility and right and wrong. They knew they would not be around when we grew up!

They taught us not to lie, not to take anything without asking first, no stealing and no backtalk. If we did, we got it right in the mouth. And a lot of times if we wanted spending money, we had to earn it! We did a good job the first time so we wouldn’t have to do it over again. So we cut grass, raked leaves, shoveled snow and we’d always take our dog with us. We had fields all around our house full of blackberries, and my mom always made us take our dog with us to scare away snakes.

My mother was an RN and a

wonderful cook. And when we were old enough, we both joined the Brownies and the Girl Scout troop. I remember they taught us how to cook and we earned our scouting badges. Then my mother had cancer. She tried to fight it, but lost when I turned 16 years old. I think she was only 50 when she died. We loved our mother very much.

Back then, Jack F. Kennedy was president. I remember where I was when the news was announced over the intercom. We were in the football stadium playing the Waynesville Mountaineers. Everyone was stunned. Then we all started crying. Coach Brookshire was a praying coach, so the players got in a circle, joined hands and prayed. Afterward, we finished the game and won the AAA championship!

Growing up, I learned a lot and went on to study nursing. Later I joined the Army. And if

we hadn’t learned respect — it’s a two-way street, if you want it, you have to give it!

In our mountain town, we had good, clean water. Especially after I married and lived 3 miles straight up a mountaintop, our water and house were clean and the health department checked it — no bacteria. I loved that mountain house — our well was through solid rock!

I’m very much against the pipelines — how would you like to drink water with arsenic, lead, etc.? Do you all not remember the movie “Erin Brockovich”? It was about a secretary working for a big lawyer on all these cases of people who had to drink that water and later had a large number of proven cancer cases.

A word to the wise: The Lord doesn’t miss a trick! And all for greed.

Ann S. Brown
WILSON

State’s delegation fought budget fiasco



JOHN HOOD

RALEIGH — The humorist P.J. O’Rourke once observed that “giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.” Based on what Congress just

did to “fix” the budget impasse in Washington, O’Rourke owes an apology to tipsy teens across America for the unfair comparison.

Even before the passage of federal tax reform in December, the federal budget was massively imbalanced. Projected or promised federal spending exceeded projected federal revenue by \$10 trillion over the next 10 years.

Properly measured — that is, excluding the gimmicks that masked its fiscal impact — the federal tax law will likely increase those projected deficits by \$1.4 trillion even after accounting for the higher economic growth that lower corporate tax rates, in particular, will likely produce.

Federal tax reform was a good idea. Its benefits, in the form of higher employment and gains in household income, will be most welcome. But its fiscal impact ought to have been offset by at least a \$1.4 trillion reduction in federal spending growth over the coming decade.

In accounting terms, government spending is never self-financing. A dollar of federal spending must always be paid by a dollar of federal revenue. It’s just a question of timing. When a budget is balanced, past or current taxpayers are

footing the bill. When it isn’t, future taxpayers will be.

When Congress came back to Washington in January, the federal budget impasse presented them with the opportunity to make a down payment on deficit reduction. Lawmakers could have agreed to spend less on their own priorities in exchange for other lawmakers spending less on theirs. At the very least, they could have continued to enforce budget caps on both defense and discretionary spending.

It was too much to ask of the immature motorists at Washington’s wheel, apparently. Smashing through the budget caps, majorities in both chambers agreed to federal spending hikes that, if sustained over the coming decade, will add another \$1.5 trillion to the federal debt. A few days later, the Trump administration pitched a spending outline with some budget cuts that would reduce the fiscal damage somewhat, if fully implemented. Alas, they won’t be.

Several dozen members of the U.S. House had the courage of their fiscally conservative convictions and voted against the deal. North Carolinians should be proud of the fact that most of our delegation said no.

“Fiscal discipline is not a principle of convenience and responsible governing requires making the tough choices and keeping your promises,” said Rep. Mark Walker (R-6th District), who chairs the Republican Study Committee — the largest caucus of conservatives in the House. The need to restrain federal spending is “why the people of North Carolina sent me to Congress,” he added, “not to throw more money

towards our problems at the expense of our children and grandchildren.”

Rep. Mark Meadows (R-11th District), who chairs the House Freedom Caucus, summed it up this way: “The swamp won. And the American taxpayer lost.”

Political sophisticates say that deficit-reduction is a losing proposition, politically speaking, because voters don’t care about it. The sophisticates are mistaken. If you look at the approval ratings of Congress over the past five decades, you’ll find that the only sustained period of time most Americans approved of the institution was in the late 1990s and early 2000s, when the federal budget was either balanced or close to it.

That happened both because federal revenue in the late 1990s was above the long-term average of 17 percent of gross domestic product, thanks in part to a surging stock market, and because federal spending was below its long-term average of 20 percent. By comparison, President Trump’s new budget outline projects that over the next six years, revenue will average 16.6 percent of GDP and expenditures 20.6 percent. And that’s the best-case scenario.

We teach our kids to accept painful realities. We teach them not to be reckless. We teach them to think about the future.

Then politicians come along and teach them otherwise.

John Hood (@JohnHoodNC) is chairman of the John Locke Foundation and appears on “N.C. Spin,” broadcast statewide Fridays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. on UNC-TV.

Tell us what’s on your mind

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Commentary

"A group of marching men and women who were born in other countries would be a reminder of their important contributions to their adopted countries." D.G. MARTIN

Let's have a parade



D.G. MARTIN

I love a parade. So maybe I should be supportive of President Trump's suggestion for a big military parade sometime later this year. The president's idea has not gotten universal approval. Some argue that the money spent for a parade

would be better used to beef up our defense capability.

On the other hand, parades have always been a part of the military experience. They serve a number of purposes, including armed forces' public relations, learning experiences for the troops, and an opportunity to build esprit de corps.

President Trump seems to have in mind something like the Bastille Day parade he saw in France when he visited President Macron last year. The shiny, well-dressed French soldiers and sailors apparently wowed our president.

That kind of parade would be fine, I guess, but I would rather the president have something other than the spit and polish version he saw in France or the dark, loaded-weapons filled parades of North Korea's Kim Jong Un.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the president is "exploring different ways that he can highlight and show the pride that we have in the military, the people that have served and sacrificed to allow us all the freedoms that we have."

So, maybe the president would consider a different kind of parade, one that would celebrate the rich experience and traditions of the American military and celebrate our country's unique and progressive experience.

Instead of a corps of spit-and-polish soldiers, tanks and rocket launchers, think of an event that might be more like a community holiday parade.

The leading elements of the parade could be still be traditional with smartly attired soldiers, sailors and Air Force men and women, Marines and Coast Guard in small groups.

But they would be supplemented by other groups.

The parade could include veterans from our recent wars including the Korean War, Vietnam, the Middle East and even our World War II veterans, especially because there will not be many more opportunities for us to honor them before they are all gone.

Not to leave out important experiences that many Americans have as new recruits, the parade could feature a unit of brand-new inductees, pointing to how much the training experience will benefit them.

A group of marching military men and women who were born in other countries would be a reminder of their important contributions to their adopted country.

Wounded veterans bravely parading their way on crutches, in wheelchairs and otherwise struggling, but struggling successfully, to be a part of our country's life, would give us the opportunity to thank them for their service and celebrate their bravery and determination.

To recognize the services' role in expanding opportunities for blacks and women and their contributions to our nation's defense, groups of them could take special places in the event.

To show the services' new diversity and the legitimization of the roles of gay and lesbian soldiers and sailors, a detachment representing them could march together. Carrying the flags of their units and also a flag of a gender advocacy group would give an opportunity for the nation to recognize and accept the contribution of these soldiers and sailors.

Including children of military personnel serving overseas would celebrate the sacrifice of families of servicemen and women and assert that the country has not forgotten them. It would celebrate and thank the many organizations that support these families while their loved ones are away.

Finally, to make this parade truly special and representative of the American military experience, the highest-ranking generals and the president himself might march in the parade rather than simply reviewing it from sheltered stands.

D.G. Martin hosts "North Carolina Bookwatch," which airs Sundays at 11 a.m. and Thursdays at 5 p.m. on UNC-TV.



Scandal, corruption, lawbreaking — and so what?



VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

The FISA-gate, Clinton emails and Uranium One scandals are sort of reaching a consensus. Many things quite wrong and illegal were done by both Hillary

Clinton and her entourage and members of the Obama agencies and administration — both the acts themselves and the cover-ups and omissions that ensued.

Remember, in the FISA-gate scandal such likely widespread criminal behavior was predicated on two premises: 1) certainty of an easy Clinton victory, after which the miscreants would be not only excused but probably rewarded for their zeal; 2) progressive hubris in which our supposedly moral betters felt it their right, indeed their duty, to use unethical and even unlawful means for the "greater good" — to achieve their self-described moral ends of stopping the crude and reactionary Trump.

The wrongdoing probably includes attempting to warp a U.S. election, Russian collusion, repeatedly misleading and lying before the FISA courts, improperly surveilling American citizens, unmasking the names of citizens swept up in unlawful surveillance and then illegally leaking them to the press, disseminating and authenticating opposition smears during a political campaign, lying under oath to Congress, obstructing ongoing investigations, using federal funds to purchase ad hominem gossip against a presidential candidate, blatant conflicts of interests, weaponizing federal investigations, trafficking in and leaking classified information . . . The list goes on and on.

The State Department is now involved. Apparently anyone who was a former Clinton smear artist can pass fantasies to a sympathetic or known political appointee at State. And if the "dossier" fits the proper narrative and shared agenda, it gains credence enough to ensure that it is passed up to senior State officials and on to the FBI. Perhaps a private citizen with a grudge against a rival should try that as well.

These scandals will grow even greater before various congressional investigations expire.

But then what?

In some sense, we are in uncharted territory — given the misadventure of appointing Robert Mueller as special counsel. His team is now replaying the role of Patrick Fitzgerald in the Scooter Libby case: investigating a crime that did not exist and that even if it did was committed by someone else.

The Mueller team's likely

parachute will have little if anything to do with the Russian collusion that it originally and chiefly was appointed to investigate. Instead, it's likely to settle for perjury and obstruction charges against peripheral Trump officials (if the cases are not thrown out by possible reliance on tainted FISA transcripts).

The indictments may gain a little traction if they are timed to be released before the midterm elections, hyped in the mainstream media and calibrated to be tried before liberal D.C. juries. The investigation may seek some redemption or justification if it criminalizes the secretly taped bombast of a Trump family member, catching him in some sort of perjury trap or business misdeed.

Yet Mueller's appointment makes resolution of FISA-gate and its associated scandals more difficult to resolve. His value for the Left is not in what he will find but that his mere presence will become an argument ipso facto for never again appointing anyone like him. After all, has the U.S. government ever had two special counsels working at cross purposes, each investigating one of the two candidates in the prior presidential election?

Once a special counsel is appointed, can he be superseded by a really special or special-special counsel, an attorney who might have to investigate the other special counsel (who was in charge of the botched Clinton Uranium One scandal, who was appointed through a clear and constructed conflict of interest and whose own team is largely composed of proud partisans and campaign donors, and who may have been involved in using poisoned FISA surveillance data to leverage confessions or indictments)?

It is unlikely that Rod Rosenstein will demand to see whether Mueller, after almost nine months, has actually found much evidence of collusion. Nor is Rosenstein apt to order Mueller to cease a mostly dead-end investigation and redirect it along a freeway of Clinton-Obama-connected collusion, obstruction and fraud. (Read the Page-Strzok text archive to see why the present weaponized bureaucratic culture in D.C. is utterly incapable of disinterested inquiry.)

Still, Democrats at some point will see that what they thought was the formerly defensible is now becoming absolutely indefensible. Adam Schiff, after months of leaking, making grandiose false statements on cable TV and getting punked by Russian comedians, is now a caricature. He became the sad legislative bookend to the neurotic James Comey. Schiff will probably soon be forced to pivot back to his former incarnation as a loud critic of FISA court abuse.

Those who still persist in

denying the extent of clear wrongdoing will suffer the tragicomic fate of Watergate-era Rep. Charles Sandman (an authentic World War II hero) and Rabbi Baruch Korff (who as a child fled Ukrainian pogroms). The last diehard supporters of Richard Nixon as he faced impeachment, they both ended up widely discredited because of their political inability or personal unwillingness to see what was right before their eyes.

After all, professed civil libertarians, hard-hitting investigative reporters and skeptics of nontransparent and overreaching federal agencies are now insidiously defending not the just the indefensible, but what they have claimed to have fought against their entire lives. Woodward and Bernstein in their sunset years have missed the far greater scandal and in their dotage will likely nullify what they once did in their salad days.

If the economy keeps improving, if Trump's popularity nears 50 percent and if polls show the midterm elections still tightening, we should see the politics of Democratic equivocation sooner rather than later.

So what would be their terms to call it all off?

I think the Democratic fallback position will be to point to the career carnage at the FBI and DOJ as punishment enough.

Director Comey was fired. Deputy Director Andrew McCabe was forcibly retired. FBI lawyer Lisa Page was reassigned and demoted. FBI general counsel James Baker resigned. Senior agent Peter Strzok was reassigned and demoted. The former FBI director's chief of staff, James Rybicki, resigned. Mike Kortan, FBI assistant director for public affairs, took retirement. Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr was reassigned and demoted.

The Justice Department's counterintelligence head, David Laufman, resigned. A cadre of others "unexpectedly" have left, allegedly (or conveniently) for private-sector jobs. Such career implosions do not happen without cause.

And if that is not enough, Democrats may further tsk-tsk that if there were perhaps zealotry and excesses, they were in the distant past. An out-of-office Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Samantha Power, James Clapper, John Brennan — and Barack Obama — may have stepped over the line a bit in matters of surveillance, unmasking and leaking. But do we really wish to go back and put another administration on trial, politicizing governmental transitions?

And if that is not enough, Democrats will also shrug that the collusion mess was analogous to another Republican Benghazi hearing: lots of embarrassing smoke of "what difference does it make?" admissions, but little fire in proving

beyond a shadow of a doubt that the main players engaged in prosecutable crimes.

And if that is still not enough, Democrats in extremis may concede that Mueller could retire with his minor scalps, and both sides then could call it quits, even-stein. Who knows, perhaps they will say that Christopher Steele had a history with Russian oligarchs and was using his paymaster Hillary Clinton as well as being used by her?

Accepting any of these obfuscations would be a grave mistake.

Despite a nonstop media assault on Trump's administration, Rep. Devin Nunes and the congressional investigative committees, more than 50 percent of the public already believes that the Trump campaign was illegally surveilled and smeared through the confluence of the Clinton campaign, the Obama administration and the FBI.

Voters would only grow more cynical if some Americans were allowed to abuse constitutionally protected civil liberties, and to lie to the Congress, the FBI, and the courts, while the less connected others go to jail for much less. Without a judicial accounting, it will be impossible to clean up the hierarchies of the FBI and the DOJ.

Indeed, absent accountability and punishment, the new modus operandi would be for any lame-duck incumbent administration to use federal agencies to enhance the campaign of its own party's nominee. It would be only logical to conclude that criminal acts used to help a successor would be forgotten or rewarded under the victor's tenure.

What is needed?

Attorney General Sessions must find muscular, ambitious and combative prosecutors (preferably from outside Washington, D.C., and preferably existing federal attorneys), direct them to call a grand jury, and begin collating information from congressional investigations to get to the bottom of what is likely one of gravest scandals in post-war American history: the effort to use the federal government to thwart the candidacy of an unpopular presidential candidate and then to smear and ruin his early tenure as president.

Only another prosecutorial investigation, one way or another, will lead to resolution, take the entire mess out of the partisan arena and keep the anemic Mueller investigation honest — with the full knowledge that if its own investigators have violated laws or used tainted evidence or in the past obstructed justice, then they too will be held to account.

Victor Davis Hanson is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and a contributor to *The National Review*, where this column originally appeared.

Sheriff’s report: Suspect confessed to Florida school attack

By Terry Spencer,
Kelli Kennedy and Tamara Lush
The Associated Press

PARKLAND, Fla. — The teenager accused of using a semi-automatic rifle to kill 17 people at a Florida high school confessed to carrying out one of the nation’s deadliest school shootings and concealing extra ammunition in his backpack, according to a sheriff’s department report released Thursday.

The report from the Broward County Sheriff’s Office said Nikolas Cruz told investigators that he shot students in the hallways and on the grounds of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, north of Miami.

Cruz told officers he brought more loaded magazines to the school and kept them hidden in the backpack until he got on campus.

As students began to flee, he said, he decided to discard his AR-15 rifle and a vest he was wearing so he could blend in with the crowd. Police recovered the rifle and the vest.

A day after the attack, a fuller portrait emerged of the suspect, a loner who had worked at a dollar store, joined the school’s ROTC program and posted photos of weapons on Instagram. At least one student said classmates joked that Cruz would “be the one to shoot up the school.”

Cruz, a 19-year-old orphan whose mother died last year, was charged with murder Thursday in the attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in this sleepy community on the edge of the Everglades. It was the nation’s deadliest school attack since a gunman assaulted an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut, more

than five years ago.

Meanwhile, students struggled to describe the violence that ripped through their classrooms on an ordinary day just before classes were to be dismissed.

Catarina Linden, a 16-year-old sophomore, said she was in an advanced math class Wednesday when the gunfire began. “He shot the girl next to me,” she said, adding that when she finally was able to leave the classroom, the air was foggy with gun smoke. “I stepped on so many shell casings. There were bodies on the ground, and there was blood everywhere.”

Among the dead: a football coach who also worked as a security guard, a senior who planned to attend Lynn University, an athletic director who was active in his Roman Catholic church.

Some bodies remained inside the high school Thursday as authorities analyzed the crime scene. Thirteen wounded survivors were still hospitalized, including two in critical condition.

Authorities have not described any specific motive, except to say that Cruz had been kicked out of the high school, which has about 3,000 students and serves an affluent suburb where the median home price is nearly \$600,000. Students who knew him described a volatile teenager whose strange behavior had caused others to end friendships with him.

Cruz was ordered held without bond at a brief court hearing. He wore an orange jumpsuit with his hands cuffed at his waist. His attorney did not contest the order and had her arm around Cruz during the short appearance.

Afterward, she called him a “broken human being” and added that she “had to have the exact same conversation that ev-

ery parent in Broward County had to have with their children this morning.”

Wednesday’s shooting was the 17th incident of gunfire at an American school this year. Of the 17 incidents, one involved a suicide, two involved active shooters who killed students, two involved people killed in arguments and three involved people who were shot but survived. Nine involved no injuries at all.

As the criminal case began to take shape, President Donald Trump, in an address to the nation, promised to “tackle the difficult issue of mental health,” but avoided any mention of guns. Trump, who owns a private club in Palm Beach, about 40 miles from Parkland, said he planned to visit the grieving community.

Trump, who did not speak publicly immediately after the shooting, weighed in on Twitter early Thursday, calling the suspect “mentally disturbed” and stressing that it was important to “report such instances to authorities, again and again!”

In the case of Cruz, at least one person did report him.

FBI agent Rob Lasky said the FBI investigated a 2017 YouTube comment that said “I’m going to be a professional school shooter.” But the agency could not identify the person who made the comment, which was from an account using the name Nikolas Cruz. It was left on a YouTube video of a vlogger and bail bondsman from Louisiana named Ben Bennight.

In a Buzzfeed article, Bennight said he called the FBI, and agents came out to talk with him. They called him again Wednesday.

Officials were also investigating whether authorities missed other warning signs about Cruz’ potentially violent nature. He had been expelled from the school

for “disciplinary reasons,” said Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel, who said he did not know the specifics.

One student said Cruz had been abusive to his ex-girlfriend and that his expulsion was over a fight with her new boyfriend.

Math teacher Jim Gard told the Miami Herald that Cruz may have been identified as a potential threat before Wednesday’s attack. Gard believes the school had sent out an email warning teachers that Cruz should not be allowed on campus with a backpack.

The leader of a white nationalist militia called the Republic of Florida said Cruz was a member of his group and participated in exercises in Tallahassee. Jordan Jereb told The Associated Press that he had only a brief interaction a few years ago with Cruz, who came across as “a normal Florida white guy.”

The group wants Florida to become its own white ethno-state. Jereb said his organization holds “spontaneous random demonstrations” and tries not to participate in the modern world.

“We don’t really endorse doing the things he did,” Jereb said. “But at the same time, it’s inevitable that people are going to go crazy because we live in an inherently sick society,” he said, citing “hyper-egalitarianism” and feminism as some of society’s ills.

Two federal law enforcement officials said the Smith & Wesson M&P15 .223 was purchased legally at Sunrise Tactical Gear in Florida.

Cruz passed a background check and legally purchased the assault weapon from a licensed dealer in February 2017, a law enforcement official familiar with the investigation but not authorized to discuss it publicly told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

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FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR WILSON

TODAY 78 A shower this afternoon	TONIGHT 43 Cooler; rain and drizzle early	SATURDAY 46 39 Rain and drizzle in the p.m.	SUNDAY 62 39 Clouds yielding to sun	MONDAY 68 61 Low clouds and mild	TUESDAY 78 59 Warmer with clouds and sun
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HEALTH INDICES

AccuWeather.com Asthma Index™

2
Low

The AccuWeather.com Asthma Index combines the effects of current air quality, pollen counts, wind, temperature, dew point, barometric pressure and changes from past weather conditions to provide a scale showing the overall probability and severity of an asthma attack.

0-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10
Low	Moderate	High	V. High	Extreme

ALMANAC

Statistics through 4 p.m. yesterday

Temperatures	
High	72°
Low	54°
Normal high	54°
Normal low	32°
Last year's high	56°
Last year's low	39°

Precipitation	
24 hours ending 4 p.m. yest.	0.00"
Month to date	1.12"
Normal month to date	1.62"
Year to date	4.29"
Normal year to date	5.18"
Last year to date	4.33"

Humidity	
8 a.m. today	73%
Noon today	56%
4 p.m. today	56%

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	6:58 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:54 p.m.
Moonrise today	7:30 a.m.
Moonset today	6:49 p.m.

Moon Phases	
First	Full
Feb 23	Mar 1
Last	New
Mar 9	Mar 17

LAKE LEVELS (IN FEET)

Data from 7 a.m. yesterday

Lake	Level	Full Pool	24 hr. Chg.
Buckhorn	147.96	148.0	-0.08
Falls of Neuse	250.51	264.0	+0.03
Gaston	199.77	203.0	+0.31
Jordan	217.95	216.0	+0.04
Kerr	300.04	300.0	+0.33
Mackintosh	551.83	551.5	none
Norman	98.40	100.0	-0.17

STATE WEATHER

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

LOCAL WEATHER

NATIONAL WEATHER

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

WEATHER HISTORY

On Feb. 16, 1958, a storm brought heavy, wind-blown snow to the northern and mid-Atlantic states. Accumulations from Washington, D.C., through Philadelphia and New York City to Boston exceeded 12 inches.

The Wilson Times

Weathercast

with Albert Thomas, Jr.

Preview of the week posted Monday afternoons.

Preview of the weekend posted Friday afternoons.

wilsontimes.com

Sports

Party like it's 1985

Hunt reigns as Big East girls champion

By Tom Ham
hammer@wilsontimes.com | 265-7819

No more talk about a Hunt High varsity girls basketball team winning its last — its only — conference championship back in 1985.

The 2017-18 Lady Warriors reign as undisputed queens of the 3-A Big East Conference after conquering archrival Fike 58-46 in the regular-season finale for both teams before a turnout of some 500 in the Hunt High gym Thursday night.

“I don’t want to hear it again,” exclaimed second-year Hunt head coach Tiffany Parks. “I am tired of looking at that one number (1985) up on the wall. And I am just excited to beat Fike; secondly comes the championship.”

The archrivals would have



Hunt's Bria Griffith (1) and Tatiana Smith (23) point towards the placard holding the only girls basketball conference championship in program history - until Thursday night. The Lady Warriors defeated Fike 58-46 to clinch Hunt's first league title since 1985. Sheldon Vick | Special to the Times

See **HUNT**, Page 2B



Fike's Eliahwon Cooper (3) tries to angle around the defense of Hunt's Zion May (14) during Thursday's rivalry game at Hunt. Hunt won 56-55. Sheldon Vick | Special to the Times

Ward's game winner sends Warriors past Demons, 56-55

By Tom Ham
hammer@wilsontimes.com | 265-7819

The Hunt High varsity boys basketball team will likely be staying home for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association 3-A playoffs that tip off next week.

But Warriors seniors Jameson Lucas, Javion Farmer and Laquan Rasberry will remember that they won their last game before a turnout of some 500 in the Hunt High gym Thursday night.

And they will long savor the outcome — a 56-55 3-A Big East Conference thriller against archrival Fike in both teams' regular-season finale.

Down 46-36 at the outset of the last quarter, Hunt got the winning basket from C.J. Ward with nine seconds left.

Clinging to the final margin, the Warriors defended well the frantic Golden Demons and forced an off-balanced runner down the lane from junior Eliahwon Cooper a scant second before the buzzer. Hunt junior Zion May cradled the rebound.

Players and fans stormed the court.

A rocky season ended with Hunt conquering its archrival in two of three 20-17-18 meetings and deadlocking Fike for third place in the conference at 3-7. The Warriors, victorious against Fike for the Farris & Farris Holiday Tournament championship, wound up with a 7-15 record.

Fike, projected to land a spot in next week's North Carolina High School Athletic Association 3-A playoffs, dropped to 10-13 after winning three of its previous four games.

Sophomore Tiquez Taylor's 17 points sparked the Warriors of second-year head coach Wayne Hardy. May netted 11. Lucas wound up with nine, Farmer with seven and Rasberry with a clutch field goal.

Hunt stormed into position to secure the victory late in the fourth quarter, but committed two turnovers. The Warriors also experienced problems stopping Fike sophomore Moses Parker, who pumped in a game-high 21 points.

Farmer's free throw left Hunt trailing

See **WARRIORS**, Page 2B

With tweaking, Blue Devil train is back on the tracks

By Adam Rowe
Special to the Times

Big wins for Duke over Georgia Tech and Virginia Tech seem to have erased the sour feelings of the three closes losses suffered to Virginia (65-63), St. John's (81-77) and UNC (82-78). The Blue Devils played excellent basketball during their last two wins, with Hall of Fame coach Mike Krzyzewski pulling strings and moving pieces around the chess board for motivational (sitting Trevon Duval and starting Alex O'Connell) and tactical (shift to a base zone defense) purposes. Grayson Allen has played his best basketball of the ACC schedule in the last two outings, and it's no coincidence that has happened with his move to more of a point guard role. With Allen's shot faltering, he became too one-dimensional as an off-guard threat and allowed de-

fenses to slack off him and focus their efforts on slowing down other players. It neutralized one of Duke's strongest offensive threats and made the nation's No. 2 offense in terms of efficiency a little easier to defend. After putting the ball in Allen's hands, he is averaging 24 points and six assists and looks like he's rejuvenated for the final five regular season games and at least two postseason games of his storied career at Duke.

THE BYE BYE RACE

Duke, at 9-4 in conference, is now tied for second in the ACC with Clemson, and the teams will face off at Littlejohn Coliseum on Sunday afternoon. That matchup would give the winner sole possession of second place as well as the tiebreaker while

See **BLUE DEVILS**, Page 2B



Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski reacts during the second half of Wednesday's game against Virginia Tech in Durham. Duke won 74-52. Behind a zone defense and other switches orchestrated by Krzyzewski, the Blue Devils are playing improved basketball heading into a crucial game for second place in the ACC at Clemson on Sunday. AP

On a real goose chase



BILL HOWARD

I had one of my editors reach out to me last week with a comment from a reader about one of the columns. If there is a letter to the editor that gets published, it is usually someone not liking my writing style, thinking I brag about myself too much, or expressing how awful hunting and fishing is in general. However, when there is a comment coming from a reader being parlayed through my editor, it is usually something supporting my column whether there was a helpful tip, a reminder of a childhood trip for the reader, or something else benevolent.

This comment was neither. Well, it was kind of neither. There was nothing bad about the column, but it was a comment about my misidentification of the proper name of a goose.

Shakespeare once coined the phrase: “What’s in a name? That which we call a rose. By any other name would smell as sweet.” Now to dissect this statement, we first need to recognize I misused the word phrase. You see, the phrase technically means a group of words that stand together and are typically forming a component of a clause.

Second, if rose was capitalized it could change the whole meaning as well, indicating Shakespeare may be mistaken, since a capitalized Rose could actually be the name of a skunk. And of all the skunks I have smelled before, none would be what I would call sweet. Unless, of course, sweet has a new meaning as well.

Looking at that group of sentences, it is easy to see rose is not Rose, so we are talking about the flower and not a skunk’s name. Speaking aloud the group of sentences, we could be easily fooled. Maybe.

In the past I have written on this very subject, using the same Shakespeare quote from Romeo and Juliet, regarding fishing for bream. Bream happens to be a great example of where I am leading. Another spelling I have seen for the small sunfish is brim. Brim is not a fish, but rather the rim of a hat or the point of overflowing (fill it to the brim). But one day, I expect things to change. Especially here in the South, it seems brim is commonly used. Maybe not quite as much as bream, but close.

So, due to the amount of incorrect usage, the word brim will likely go the way of possum. One of my pet peeves is that word possum. I took pride in knowing possum was spelled opossum during a spelling bee sometime back in the early 80’s. Knowing now that possum is an accepted spelling of opossum just infuriates me.

The mountain lion has a completely different allowed nomenclature. You see, mountain lion,

See **OUTDOORS**, Page 3B

Hunt: On-court celebration ensues

continued from page 1B

shared the title with a third Lady Golden Demons victory against Hunt this season.

But Hunt, bouncing back from consecutive losses to Fike and Franklinton, led from opening tip to the final buzzer in posting an 8-2 conference record and 15-7 overall mark. The Lady Demons wound up in second place at 7-3 and 17-6, respectively.

Parks assured the Lady Warriors wanted no part of sharing the championship.

“Certainly not with Fike,” she declared.

“Speechless” was sophomore Bria Griffith’s reaction. “We’ve had our ups-and-downs, but we pulled through it and stayed together as a team. We just knew how much we wanted to win (the conference championship). We stayed focused and dedicated. We played

“We just knew how much we wanted to win. We stayed focused and dedicated. We played probably our best game of the season.”

BRIA GRIFFITH

probably our best game of the season.”

On Senior Night, Kayla Kent, the only senior, triggered the Lady Warriors with 16 points. Griffith tossed in 14, sophomore Imani Sutton 10 and junior Tatiana Smith eight.

Fike senior Aniya Thigpen produced a game-high 17 points. Senior Jada Lee added 13 points and six rebounds. Junior Jah’Asia Pernell claimed nine rebounds.

Hunt bolted to a 10-3 start, but Fike senior Te-

resa Kent’s follow shot resulted in a 36-36 tie after three quarters.

Sophomores Faith Lucas and Brianna Tucker fueled Hunt to an 8-0 start to open the fourth quarter.

Fike crept as close as two points although Thigpen and Lee were not connecting from well beyond the 3-point arc.

Fike was down 50-46 when Kayla Kent scored for the Warriors with 1:11 showing. Two free throws from Smith and a basket off a steal by the 5-foot-10 Griffith left the Lady Warriors in command at 56-46 with 44.5 seconds remaining.

An on-court celebration erupted seconds later.

FIKE (46)									
Lee 13, Whitaker 2, Everette, Barbee 1, Kent 6, Pernell 5, Sage, Thigpen 17, Blake 2.									
HUNT (58)									
Griffith 14, Jones, McNeil, Tucker 4, Rushing, Lucas 6, Kent 16, Smith 8, Sutton 10.									
Score by quarters:									
Fike	7	12	17	10	—	46			
Hunt	18	10	8	22	—	58			



Hunt’s Kayla Kent (15) muscles between Fike’s Brikayla Whitaker (4) and Ashleigh Sage, right, during Thursday’s rivalry game at Hunt. The Lady Warriors won 58-46, clinching their second conference championship in school history. Sheldon Vick | Special to the Times

Team Penske stakes claim as Daytona 500 favorites

By Jenna Fryer
AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Roger Penske has a car capable of winning the Daytona 500.

Maybe even three of them.

Penske again went 1-2 at Daytona International Speedway for its second sweep of Speedweeks. This time, Ryan Blaney went to victory lane after winning the first of two Thursday night qualifying races that are used to set the Daytona 500 field.

Chase Elliott won the second race in a Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet to put a temporary halt on the Team Penske dominance.

Joey Logano finished second to Penske teammate Blaney for the Ford sweep in the first race.

Kevin Harvick was second to Elliott in the second race and Harvick was also in a Ford — proving the automaker has the same speed it did a year ago when it swept all four restrictor-plate races.

"There's no doubt we have the speed," Harvick said about the Ford camp.

Logano has finished second now twice in Speedweeks. He was beaten last week by teammate Brad Keselowski in an all-star race that opened activity at Daytona International Speedway.

Keselowski is the Las Vegas favorite to win Sunday's season-opening Daytona 500, but he wrecked with two laps remaining in the qualifier and he'll need a backup for the main event.

No matter, it seemed, because the Penske cars so far have the Daytona field covered.

"We're going to make it happen," Logano said about the Penske effort Sunday.

The three Penske drivers dominated the all-star race and were at the front of the field for the entire Thursday night race.

Blaney won it in overtime after Keselowski's accident brought out the caution.

What was interesting was that Blaney did it with a pass that didn't work last week. When he tried to pass Keselowski in the all-star race, he pulled out of traffic and



Chase Elliott (9) crosses the finish line to win the second of two qualifying auto races for the Daytona 500 at Daytona International Speedway, Thursday in Daytona Beach, Fla. AP

didn't get the help he needed to complete the move. This time he was able to get past leader Logano, then the Keselowski accident brought out the caution.

"I didn't make a good move and I kind of lost that (all-star) race," Blaney said. "I learned a little bit and I thought about that forever. I thought we learned a little bit from our mistakes. Hopefully we can make it another one here on Sunday. That would be the one that counts."

On the restart in overtime, Blaney got a huge push from best friend Darrell "Bubba" Wallace Jr. and pulled away for the win.

"I saw (he) was third and I'd figure he'd give me a good push," Blaney said about Wallace.

Wallace finished third and was congratulated with a huge hug from team owner Richard Petty, the seven-time NASCAR champion.

"That is probably the highlight of the night, better than finishing third, just seeing how pumped he was," Wallace said.

Jimmie Johnson was in his second accident of Speedweeks.

The seven-time NASCAR champion dropped out of line just minutes after his race began with an apparent tire problem, and his car took an unexpected hard right into traffic.

The contact wrecked Johnson, Daniel Suarez and Aric Almirola, and sent Johnson and Almirola to backup cars. He also wrecked on Sunday in the all-star exhibition race.

"Tough way to start Speedweeks," Johnson said. "The car started to shake a little bit entering the trioval, that's why I pulled down. It finally went flat and hooked me around and into Aric. We will pull out that next bullet

and get ready."

It wasn't all bad for Hendrick Motorsports, though, as Elliott won his qualifying race for the second consecutive year. He might have won the Daytona 500, too, had he not run out of gas last year.

"We have the big one on Sunday — that is the main thing," Elliott said.

The second qualifying race began with Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers watching from the top of girlfriend Danica Patrick's pit box.

The Daytona 500 is her final NASCAR race and Rodgers arrived in Daytona on Wednesday, Valentine's Day, to support her effort.

He ignored questions from media as he climbed off the pit box following her 14th-place finish in her race. Patrick's plan for the qualifier was simply to stay out of trouble and keep her Premium Motorsports entry clean for her final Daytona 500.

"I was just playing it safe," she said.

Alex Bowman has the pole for the Daytona 500 based on last weeks' time trials, and much like Patrick, his goal was simply to make it through the qualifying race unscathed. So Bowman dropped to the back of the pack and just made laps, a move that was criticized by veteran Harvick, a series champion and former Daytona 500 winner.

Bowman said it was obvious his Hendrick entry was set to contend for the pole and needs adjustments before it will be strong in race trim.

"We came down here to sit on the pole," Bowman said. "We have an entire different setup that we can just make it drive better for the 500."

Lady Knights ousted

From staff reports

GOLDSBORO — The Greenfield School varsity girls basketball team held a two-point lead late in the first quarter of Thursday’s North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association second-round playoff game with Wayne Country Day, but an 11-2 run to close the period put the Lady Knights on their heels before a scoring drought resulted in a 57-22 loss.

Warriors: Parker has 21 for Demons

continued from page 1B

55-54 with 30.4 seconds remaining. Possession went to Hunt on a held-ball situation, but junior Malcolm Coley’s 3-point attempt missed.

The Demons scrambled for possession but the Warriors won the scramble for possession of the basketball, and C.J. Ward slipped through for the winning layup.

Fike’s Parker was complemented by Trevon Atkinson with 13 points — 10 in the first half when the Demons constructed a 26-17 margin.

FIKE (55)									
J. Ward 9, Cooper 9, Dickerson, Hillard, Green 3, Atkinson 13, Brayboy, Parker 21.									
HUNT (56)									
Wade 1, Coley 2, Taylor 17, Best, Rasberry 2, Farmer 7, May 11, C.J. Ward 7, Lucas 9.									
Score by quarters:									
Fike	15	11	20	9	—	55			
Hunt	9	8	19	20	—	56			

Lady Bulldogs No. 5 in SE Regional rankings

From staff reports

Situated in the thick of a regular-season championship race in Conference Carolinas, the Barton College women’s basketball team debuted at No. 5 in the first release of the official 2018 NCAA Division II Southeast Region rankings Wednesday.

The rankings are different from media polls conducted throughout the season and are voted on by members of the Div. II selection committee.

Barton, which owns a 19-5 record against Div. II opposition, is one spot ahead of Conference Carolinas cohort Limestone. Although the Lady Saints own a 20-4 record and a one-game lead over Barton in the league standings, the Lady Bulldogs, 16-1 in their last 16 games, defeated Limestone 70-49 in Wilson Gym on Jan. 31. Barton is seeking to return to the NCAA field for the first time since 2013.

Two teams ranked in the committee’s top 10 — No. 3 North Georgia (21-3) and No. 9 Georgia College (15-8) defeated Barton earlier in the season. However, Barton was without the services of junior Kianna Wynn and senior Karimah Dean in both contests.

The selection committee is allowed to consider student-athlete availability in its deliberations.

At the conclusion of conference tournament play, tourney champions from the three Southeast region conferences (Conference Carolinas, South Atlantic Conference and Peach Belt) will get automatic bids into the eight-team regional tournament. The remaining five teams will be selected by the committee and announced via live stream at naaa.com on March 4.

Carson-Newman (23-1) led the initial poll, followed by Wingate (19-3), North Georgia, Lander (18-5) and Barton. Limestone, Anderson (16-8) and Flagler (13-7) make up the rest of the top eight. Georgia College and Tusculum (15-8) are situated at Nos. 9 and 10, respectively.

Barton, winners of five in a row, dispatched Erskine College on the road 82-55 Wednesday night.

Three road games remain for the Lady Bulldogs before the start of the conference tournament, with contests at Limestone on Saturday, at Converse on Tuesday and at archrival University of Mount Olive’s Kornegay Arena on Friday, Feb. 23.

Quarterfinal action in the Conference Carolinas tourney begins Monday, Feb. 26.

Blue Devils: Allen’s move to point guard, 2-3 zone expected to stick around

continued from page 1B

jockeying for positioning in race to the ACC Tournament. All teams are gunning for one of the top four seeds to secure a double bye. UNC (9-5), Louisville (8-5), Miami (7-6), Virginia Tech (7-6) and NC State (7-6) are all within striking distance of the Blue Devils should they falter down the stretch. There is a big jumble of programs within 2 ½ games of each other from the No. 4 to the No. 11 seeds, so any loss moving forward could be devastat-

ing for Duke’s seeding. There are five games left in the regular season for the Blue Devils, and three of them are at home.

ALLEN AT POINT GUARD

Coach K worked some magic by moving Allen over to the point guard position, freeing up passing lanes and moving Trevon Duval off the ball into more of a shooting and attacking role. The offense has looked much more free-flowing, even without the services of

Marvin Bagley the last two games. Opponents are now having to work off an entirely new look Duke offense for game planning purposes. It’s been enough of a wrinkle to provide big wins over Georgia Tech and Virginia Tech, but will it be enough for Duke to take down No. 11 Clemson on the road on Sunday? Stay tuned.

BAGLEY’S RETURN

Freshman phenom and ACC Player of the Year frontrunner Marvin Bagley

has missed the last two games with what the team has termed a “minor” knee sprain. Holding him out has been deemed precautionary by the program, and Coach K, Wendell Carter and Grayson Allen are all expecting Bagley back soon.

ZONE DEFENSE PERMANENT?

Coach K said Duke’s base defense will be zone moving forward. The Blue Devils have played some of their best defense of the season in the 2-3 zone, and

time is running out for the team to suddenly find its groove in man-to-man.

MONTGOMERY VISITS

The No. 12-ranked player in the country according to the 247Sports Composite Rankings, power forward E.J. Montgomery, took an unofficial visit to UNC and Duke this week. He is expected to also take official visits later this spring before making a final decision during the early signing period in April. Most indications are

that Duke is the favorite, but Montgomery has yet to name a leader.

HELP WANTED

David Cutcliffe has yet to make any public statements about his search for a new defensive coordinator, and all indications are that the search process is ongoing.

With the Blue Devils starting spring practice in late March, expectations are that the hiring will be official sometime within the next week or so.



New Jersey Devils right wing Stefan Noesen (23) celebrates his goal against Carolina Hurricanes goaltender Scott Darling, left, with Devils' Miles Wood (44), Travis Zajac (19) and John Moore (2) during the second period of Thursday's game in Newark, N.J. AP

Darling lets in 5, Hurricanes fall to Devils

By Tom Canavan
AP Sports Writer

NEWARK, N.J. — Nico Hischier had a goal and two assists, and Stefan Noesen scored twice to lead the New Jersey Devils to a 5-2 victory over the Carolina Hurricanes on Thursday night in a game between the two teams currently in wild-card playoff positions in the Eastern Conference.

Kyle Palmieri and Damon Severson also scored for the Devils, who have won two straight after losing four in a row. Keith Kinkaid made 27 saves.

Hischier had the primary assist on Palmieri's go-ahead goal late in the second period and helped blow the game open in the third, combining with Noesen to score goals in a 32-second span.

Jeff Skinner and defenseman Brett Pesce scored for Carolina, which was

on the road after going 5-2-1 in a season-high eight-game homestand. Scott Darling had 17 saves for the Hurricanes, who will play New Jersey at home on Sunday.

Palmieri snapped a 2-all tie with 2:32 left in the second period with an uncontested shot in close. Hischier sent the puck into the crease from behind the net and Darling poked it right to Palmieri for his 14th goal. Carolina accused Hischier of goaltender interference for being in the crease but the goal stood a review.

Hischier, the No. 1 pick overall in the draft last June, got his 11th goal on an odd-man rush with a shot from the right circle. Noesen scored his second with a bouncing deflection of a Severson shot.

Pesce had tied the game 2-all at 7:43 of the second period with a shot from low in the right circle after patiently waiting

for a lane to open. His third goal of the season came less than a minute after Noesen poked the rebound of Travis Zajac's shot into an open net for a 2-1 New Jersey advantage.

Skinner had given Carolina the lead with 2:38 left in the first period, poking a puck into the corner of the net for his fourth goal in three games. The goal originally was waved off by referee Tim Peel because he thought the puck was kicked in. A review showed Skinner redirected the puck with his skate into the post and then used his stick to score his 19th goal.

Severson tied the game with 19 seconds left in the period, beat Darling with a slap shot from the right dot shortly after a New Jersey penalty expired.

NOTES

Devils LW Taylor Hall stretched his personal point-scoring streak to 16 games with an assist on Hischier's goal. ... New Jersey is now 21-0-2 when leading after two periods. ... Zajac played in his 819th game with the Devils, tying him with Jay Pandolfo for sixth most among skaters in team history. ... Skinner now has 199 career goals and moved past Jeff O'Neill for fifth place on Carolina's all-time goals list. ... Devils C Brian Boyle missed his second straight game with a shoulder injury. ... Palmieri played in his 200th game for the Devils. ... The win was 29th for New Jersey, exceeding its total of last season.

UP NEXT

Carolina: Hosts the N.Y. Islanders on Friday night.

New Jersey: At Tampa Bay on Saturday night.

Young NBA phenoms set for Rising Stars game in Los Angeles

By Brian Mahoney
AP Basketball Writer

Ben Simmons thought he should be an All-Star by now.

Yet each time Commissioner Adam Silver needed to tab an injury replacement from the Eastern Conference, he looked in another direction, to Simmons' disappointment.

Simmons expressed disappointment he didn't get the call.

Be patient, rookie. Simmons will likely get his chance someday. Maybe a bunch of them.

"He's a young player that has a bright future that is going to have a long and steady All-Star career," Hall of Famer and TNT analyst Reggie Miller said.

Same with Donovan Mitchell and a few other first-year phenoms.

Those two guards head up a deep rookie class and might be neck-and-neck in this year's NBA rookie of the year race in which both are worthy of winning.

"I'm going to throw it out there,

I like the whole Grant Hill and Jason Kidd co-rookie of the years," Miller said. "I'll throw that out there now because I think both are well-deserving of it."

Hill and Kidd shared the award in 1995 and might enter the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame together this summer.

Perhaps Simmons and Mitchell will be similarly linked years from now. They will be together Friday night when the NBA's best first- and second-year players compete in the Rising Stars in Los Angeles to kick off All-Star weekend.

Simmons, the versatile 6-foot-10 point guard from the Philadelphia 76ers with six triple-doubles and size and statistics that call to mind a young Magic Johnson, and the high-flying Mitchell from the surging Utah Jazz will garner much of the attention.

But the rosters for the game, which pits a U.S. team against the World, show just how deep the league is with young talent.



In this Nov. 20 file photo, Philadelphia 76ers' Ben Simmons, left, goes up for a shot against Utah Jazz's Donovan Mitchell, right, during the first half of a game in Philadelphia. Simmons and Mitchell, the leading rookie of the year candidates, will play together Friday night when the NBA's best first- and second-year players compete in the Rising Stars game in Los Angeles to tip off All-Star weekend. AP

Outdoors: Both uses of Canada goose incorrect

continued from page 1B

pantera, panther, cougar. They are all accepted and rightfully so. There are many other names for the big cat as well, due mainly to the different areas of dialect of various tribes and settlers over the decades.

But we are here about that goose thing. I called the goose a Canadian goose. That name is what I grew up with. If that goose played hockey, I wonder if it would be a Canadian goose? Probably not. Although that hockey team has made me misspell Canadian a time or two by mistake. The reader made a point to explain the goose is properly called a Canada goose.

Herein lies the problem. Canada goose was once the accepted name of the black and gray honker, but there are actually more people who call it a Canadian goose, and that name has been accepted for at least 50 years.

But the proper name? Neither of those names are proper for the sometimes troublesome, always loud fowl that now finds a home year-round in more places than the north. There was a scientific article on this issue written several years ago by a scholar far more educated than myself. The scholar explained that neither Canada goose or Canadian goose is the proper name. The only proper name is the scientific

name which is in Latin, branta canadensis.

Personally, I have no idea if canadensis means Canada or Canadian once translated.

But this brings yet another issue; how does one come up with canadensis in the first place, since Latin became a dead language long before Canada was named Canada?

Bill Howard is an avid bowhunter and outdoorsman. He teaches hunter education (IHEA) and bowhunter education (IBEP) in North Carolina. He is a member of North Carolina Bowhunters Association and Pope & Young, and is an official measurer for both.

Three area grapplers advance at NCHSAA championships

From staff reports

GREENSBORO — The pool of state championship aspirants from The Wilson Times readership area narrowed considerably after the first round of competition Friday at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association wrestling championships, held at Greensboro Coliseum.

Of the 10 area qualifiers in the 2-A and 3-A ranks combined, only three remain in the winners bracket. The remainder are left to scramble for a top-five showing and a spot on the podium.

One of the survivors in the 3-A ranks was Southern Nash's Jesus Raya, the East Regional champion at 195 pounds. Raya moved forward into Friday's second round with a 4-0 decision over Brayan Guevara of Southeast Guilford.

Fike's Isaiah Proctor was the other 3-A competitor to reach the second round. Competing at 182, Proctor did not have to engage in the first grapple to get a forfeit win over Elijah Ballew of Candler Enka. At 2-A, Beddingfield's Patrick King, at 152 pounds, pinned Lexington's Nkosi Barnes 3:02 into their match. King was the 2-A regional runner-up at 152.

The rest of the 3-A field suffered relegation into the losers bracket, among them a pair of East regional champions.

Aaron Bancroft of Fike, the East regional king at 145, was edged in a 3-2 decision by Logan Howell of Eden Morehead. Charles B. Aycock's Devin Maldonado, the East Regional champ at 113, was handed a 14-3 majority decision loss by North Henderson's Kyle Randall.

Two regional runner-ups in Hunt's Tanner Klutey and Fike's Jayleen Bullock were also defeated in first-round action. Bullock conceded his 195-pound bout in a 17-5 majority decision to Durham Hillside's Tavis Rhodes, while Klutey was pinned by Sun Valley's Elijah Last 22 seconds into the third period at 220.

In the 138-pound ranks, Fike's Linton Holmes was defeated in a 8-5 decision by Hai Siu of Northern Durham. Zachary Coble of Southern Nash was pinned in 62 seconds by Dakota Metcalf of Hickory St. Stephens.

At the 2-A 160 pound tourney, SouthWest Edgecombe's Jaylyn Goins was defeated via pin with 18 seconds left in the opening period versus Lenoir Hibriten's Hayden Wake.

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AREA CALENDAR

Friday, February 16

College Men's Swimming
Barton at Bluegrass Mountain Conference Championships, 10 a.m.

College Women's Swimming
Barton at Bluegrass Mountain Conference Championships, 10 a.m.

College Men's Volleyball
Queens at Barton, 7 p.m.

High School Varsity Boys Basketball
2-A Eastern Carolina Conference tournament at Ayden-Grifton — Championship, 7:30 p.m.; NCCSA 2-A playoffs, first round — Greenville Christian at Wilson Christian, 7:30 p.m.; 3-A Big East Conference seed-ing game at Northern Nash, South-ern Nash vs. Rocky Mount, 6 p.m.

High School Varsity Girls Basketball
NCCSA 2-A playoffs, first round — Greenville Christian at Wilson Chris-tian, 6 p.m.; 2-A Eastern Plains Con-ference tournament at highest boys seed — Championship, North John-ston vs. Farmville Central, 6 p.m.;

Saturday, February 17

College Baseball
Mercy at Barton (DH), noon

TODAY'S TV SPORTS

Schedule subject to change and/or blackouts

Friday, Feb. 16

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

NHL HOCKEY
7:30 p.m. — The Carolina Hurricanes return to PNC Arena to face the New York Islanders in an important Metropolitan Division matchup from Raleigh. (FSCR)

NBA BASKETBALL
7 p.m.— All-Star Weekend from Los Angeles kicks off with the NBA Celebrity All-Star Game.

9 p.m.— Up-and-coming stars in the league take part in the Rising Stars Challenge, when Joel Embiid and the World Team take on the U.S. team which includes N.C. State product Dennis Smith Jr.

WINTER OLYMPICS
9 p.m.— The new-look Lakers return to their ancestral home in Min-neapolis face the Northwest Division-leading T-wolves. (TNT)

WINTER OLYMPICS
8 p.m.— Gold medals will be handed out during NBC's live coverage from Pyeongchang in men's figure skating, women's Super-G Alpine Ski-ing and women's aerials in freestyle skiing.

ALSO ON

AUTO RACING
Noon — NASCAR, Xfinity Series, Pow-erShares QQQ 300, practice, at Day-tona Beach, Fla. (FS1)

1 p.m. — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Daytona 500, practice, at Daytona Beach, Fla. (FS1)

2 p.m. — NASCAR, Xfinity Series, PowerShares QQQ 300, final practice, at Daytona Beach, Fla. (FS1)

3 p.m. — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Daytona 500, practice, at Daytona Beach, Fla. (FS1)

4:30 p.m. — NASCAR, Camping World Truck Series, NextEra Energy Re-sources 250, qualifying, at Daytona Beach, Fla. (FS1)

7:30 p.m. — NASCAR, Camping World Truck Series, NextEra Energy Re-sources 250, at Daytona Beach, Fla. (FS1)

BOXING
9 p.m. — Raymundo Beltran vs. Paul-us Moses, for vacant WBO light-weight title, at Reno, Nev. (ESPN)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL
7 p.m. — Rhode Island at St. Bo-naventure (FSN); Bowling Green at Buffalo (ESPN)

9 p.m. — Georgia St. at Georgia Southern (ESPN2); N. Kentucky at Wright St. (ESPN)

GOLF
5 a.m. — European PGA Tour, NBO Oman Open, second round, at Mus-cat, Oman (GOLF)

Noon — Champions Tour, Chubb Classic, first round, at Naples, Fla. (GOLF)

4 p.m. — PGA Tour, Genesis Open, second round, at Los Angeles (GOLF)

10 p.m. — LPGA Tour, ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open, third round, at Adelaide, Australia (GOLF)

4 a.m. (Saturday) — European PGA Tour, NBO Oman Open, third round, at Muscat, Oman (GOLF)

SOCCER
2:50 p.m. — FA Cup, Fifth round, Chel-sea vs. Hull City (FS2)

WINTER OLYMPICS

5 a.m. — Women's Curling: Sweden vs. Olympic Athletes from Russia (NBCSN)

OLY CHANNEL — Medal Ceremonies (LIVE)

7 a.m. — Men's Hockey: Finland vs. Norway (LIVE) (USA)

7:10 a.m. — Men's Hockey: Sweden vs. Germany (LIVE): Skeleton: Women's Competition (NBCSN)

10:45 a.m. — Speed Skating: Women's 5000m Gold Medal Final; Ski Jumping: Men's Individual Large Hill Competition; Medal Ceremonies (NBCSN)

2 p.m. — Women's Curling: South Ko-rea vs. Switzerland (NBCSN)

3 p.m. — Speed Skating: Women's 5000m Gold Medal Final; Cross-Coun-try Skiing: Men's 15km Gold Medal Final; Ski Jumping: Men's Individual Large Hill (NBC)

5 p.m. — Men's Curling: United States vs. Denmark (CNBC); Hockey Game of the Day (replay) (NBCSN)

7 p.m. — Olympic Ice; Figure Skat-ing: Men's Gold Medal Final (LIVE) (NBCSN)

8 p.m. — Figure Skating: Men's Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Alpine Skiing: Women's Super-G Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Freestyle Skiing: Women's Aerials Gold Medal Final; Skeleton: Women's Competition (NBC)

10 p.m. — Women's Hockey: Quar-ter-final (LIVE) (CNBC)

10:10 p.m. — Men's Hockey: Canada vs. Czech Republic (LIVE) (NBCSN)

12:30 a.m. (Saturday) — Women's Curling: United States vs. Olympic Athletes from Russia (NBCSN)

12:35 a.m. (Saturday) — Freestyle Skiing: Women's Slopestyle Gold Medal Final; Figure Skating: Men's Postgame (NBC)

2:30 a.m. (Saturday) — Ice Hockey: Women's Quarterfinal (LIVE) (USA)

2:40 a.m. (Saturday) — Men's Ice Hockey: Switzerland vs. South Korea (LIVE) (NBCSN)

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
7 p.m. — Seton Hall at St. John's (FS2)

WINTER OLYMPICS

Thursday's medalists

ALPINE SKIING

Men's Downhill
GOLD-Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway
SILVER-Kjetil Jansrud, Norway
BRONZE-Beat Feuz, Switzerland

Women's Slalom
GOLD-Mikaela Shiffrin, United States
SILVER-Ragnhild Mowinckel, Norway
BRONZE-Federica Brignone, Italy

BIATHLON

Men's 20km
GOLD-Johannes Thingnes Boe, Nor-way
SILVER-Jakov Fak, Slovenia
BRONZE-Dominik Landertinger, Aus-tria

Women's 15km
GOLD-Hanna Oeberg, Sweden
SILVER-Anastasiya Kuzmina, Slova-kia
BRONZE-Laura Dahlmeier, Germany

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Women's 10km Freestyle
GOLD-Ragnhild Haga, Norway
SILVER-Charlotte Kalla, Sweden
BRONZE-Mart Bjorgen, Norway

BRONZE-Krista Parmakoski, Finland

FIGURE SKATING

Pairs
GOLD-Germany (Aliona Savchenko, Bruno Massot)
SILVER-China (Han Cong, Sui Wen-jing)
BRONZE-Canada (Meagan Duhamel, Eric Radford)

LUGE

Team Relay
GOLD-Germany 1 (Johannes Ludwig, Natalie Geisenberger, Tobias Arlt, To-bias Wendt)
SILVER-Canada 1 (Sam Edney, Alex Gough, Tristan Walker, Justin Smith)
BRONZE-Austria 1 (David Gleirscher, Madeleine Engel, Georg Fischler, Pec-ter Penz)

SNOWBOARD

Men's Snowboard Cross
GOLD-Pierre Vaultier, France
SILVER-Jarryd Hughes, Australia
BRONZE-Regino Hernandez, Spain

SPEEDSKATING

Men's 10000
GOLD-Ted Jan Blomen, Canada
SILVER-Jorrit Bergsma, Netherlands

BRONZE-Nicola Tumolero, Italy

Thursday's scores

CURLING

Italy 10, United States 9
Canada 7, Norway 4
Britain 6, Japan 5
Switzerland 9, Denmark 7

Women
South Korea 8, Canada 6
Japan 8, Denmark 5
OA Russia 7, China 6
United States 7, Britain 4
Britain 8, China 7
Sweden 7, Canada 6
Switzerland 6, United States 5
Japan 7, South Korea 5

ICE HOCKEY

Men
Finland 5, Germany 2
Sweden 4, Norway 0
Czech Republic 2, South Korea 1
Canada 5, Switzerland 1

Women
Canada 2, United States 1
Finland 5, OA Russia 1

2018 Winter Olympic Medals Table

At Pyeongchang, South Korea

Through Feb. 15				
39 medal events	G	S	B	Tot
Germany	9	2	4	15
Norway	6	7	4	17
Netherlands	5	2	2	12
United States	5	1	2	8
Canada	4	5	4	13
Sweden	3	2	0	5
France	3	1	2	6
Austria	2	1	3	6
Italy	1	0	3	5
South Korea	1	0	1	2
Japan	0	4	3	7
Australia	0	2	1	3
China	0	2	0	2
Slovakia	0	2	0	2
OA Russia	0	1	4	5
Czech Republic	0	1	1	2
Switzerland	0	1	1	2
Finland	0	0	3	3
Slovenia	0	1	0	1
Kazakhstan	0	0	1	1
Spain	0	0	1	1

MLB

Calendar

Through Feb. 16 — Salary arbitration hearings, Phoenix.

Feb. 14 — Voluntary reporting date for pitchers, catchers and injured play-ers.

Feb. 19 — Voluntary reporting date for other players.

Feb. 24 — Mandatory reporting date.

March 29 — Opening day. Active ros-ters reduced to 25 players.

April 17-18 — Cleveland vs. Minne-sota at San Juan, Puerto Rico.

May 16-17 — Owners' meetings, New

York.

June 4 — Amateur draft starts.

June 15 — International amateur signing period closes.

July 2 — Voluntary international amateur sign-ing period opens.

July 6 — Last day to sign for amateur draft picks subject to deadline.

July 17 — All-Star Game, Washington.

July 29 — Hall of Fame inductions, Cooperstown, N.Y.

July 31 — Last day to trade a player without securing waivers.

Aug. 31 — Last day to be contracted to an organization and be eligible for

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Houston at Temple, 4 p.m.

Wednesday's Late Box

NC STATE 74, SYRACUSE 70
NC STATE (17-9)
Yurtseven 2-5 3-4 7, Dorn 3-5 2-2 8, Beverly 2-4 0-0 6, Johnson 6-10 2-3 16, A.Freeman 7-14 1-1 17, L.Freeman 1-2 2-2 4, Abu 1-1 0-0 2, Batts 0-1 0-1 0, Hunt 5-7 0-0 14, Totals 27-49 10-13 74.

SYRACUSE (17-9)
Dolezal 1-4 0-0 2, Brissett 8-13 5-6 25, Chukwu 1-1 0-0 2, Battle 5-14 7-8 17, Howard 6-10 3-6 16, Sidibe 0-0 0-1 0, Moyer 2-2 4-6 8. Totals 23-44 19-27 70.

Halftime-NC State 35-32, 3-Point Goals-NC State 10-23 (Hunt 4-6, Be-verly 2-3, Johnson 2-5, A.Freeman 2-7, Dorn 0-1, Batts 0-1), Syracuse 5-14 (Brissett 4-7, Howard 1-3, Battle 0-4), Fouled Out-Johnson. Rebounds-NC State 20 (Yurtseven 6), Syracuse 23 (Brissett 7). Assists-NC State 17 (Johnson, A.Freeman 5). Syracuse 15 (Howard 6). Total Fouls-NC State 26, Syracuse 16. Technicals-Johnson, Howard.

Thursday's Scores

EAST
Albany (NY) 91, Mass.-Lowell 81
Binghamton 69, Stony Brook 57
Fairfield 83, Marist 79
Fairleigh Dickinson 80, Mount St. Mary's 79
Hartford 67, Maine 63
Hofstra 90, William & Mary 84
Northeastern 75, Drexel 69
Quinnipiac 71, Manhattan 70
Rider 97, Siena 71
Robert Morris 83, Bryant 60
St. Francis (Pa.) 77, CCSU 71, OT
St. Francis Brooklyn 84, LIU Brooklyn 79
Towson 67, Delaware 65
Tulsa 73, UConn 71
Vermont 71, New Hampshire 58
Wagner 99, Sacred Heart 84

SOUTH
Belmont 84, E. Kentucky 73
Charleston Southern 77, Longwood 65
Coll. of Charleston 81, James Madi-son 78, OT
Furman 75, Chattanooga 56
Gennesaw St. 97, Florida Gulf Coast 93
Liberty 82, UNC-Asheville 69, OT
Lipscomb 82, Stetson 73
Louisiana-Monroe 84, Texas-Arling-ton 71
Mercer 82, VMI 58
Middle Tennessee 72, Southern Miss. 62
Murray St. 68, Jacksonville St. 60
NJIT 71, Jacksonville 69
North Florida 109, SC-Upstate 100
Presbyterian 69, High Point 62

NHL

Anaheim 58 27 20 11 65161 166
Edmonton 55 23 28 4 50157 184
Vancouver 57 22 29 6 50150 184
Arizona 57 15 32 10 40137 195

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Wednesday's Games
Toronto 6, Columbus 3
Colorado 2, Montreal 0
Florida 4, Vancouver 3

Thursday's Games
Pittsburgh 3, Los Angeles 1
New Jersey 5, Carolina 2
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Buffalo at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Washington at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Montreal at Arizona, 9 p.m.
Edmonton at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Vancouver at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's Games
Philadelphia at Columbus, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Carolina, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
St. Louis at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Los Angeles at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Anaheim at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, 2 p.m.
Edmonton at Arizona, 4 p.m.
New Jersey at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Vegas, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Washington at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Boston at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

GOLF

Genesis Open Scores

Thursday
At Riviera CC
Los Angeles
Purse: \$7.2 million
Yardage: 7,322; Par 71 (35-36)

Partial First Round

Patrick Cantlay	33-33=66
Tony Finau	34-32=66
Tom Hoge	33-34=67
Dominic Bozzelli	34-33=67
Sam Sanderson	32-35=67
Derek Fathauer	36-32=68
Ryan Moore	34-34=68
Chez Reavie	32-36=68
Aaron Wise	33-35=68
Kevin Na	34-34=68
Martin Laird	33-35=68
Jason Kokrak	33-35=68

Retief Goosen	32-36=68
Bubba Watson	34-34=68
Jamie Lovemark	33-35=68
Troy Merritt	33-35=68
Graeme McDowell	32-37=69
Justin Thomas	34-35=69
Kevin Chappell	37-32=69
Ernie Els	34-35=69
John Huh	35-35=70
Tyrone Van Aswegen	34-36=70
C.T. Pan	35-35=70
Phil Hurlley III	34-36=70
Phil Mickelson	34-36=70
Tommy Fleetwood	34-36=70
James Hahn	35-35=70
Branden Grace	36-34=70
Peter Ulrich	34-36=70
Bud Cauley	34-36=70
Kyle Stanley	34-36=70
Adam Hadwin	35-35=70
Wesley Bryan	35-35=70
Sung Kang	36-34=70

South Alabama 77, Appalachian St. 66
Troy 66, Coastal Carolina 65
UNC-Greensboro 82, The Citadel 66
UNC-Wilmington 87, Elon 63
UTEP 87, Charlotte 86
Winthrop 80, Gardner-Webb 71
Wofford 84, W. Carolina 69

MIDWEST
SE Missouri 80, E. Illinois 73
Wichita St. 93, Temple 86
Wisconsin 57, Purdue 53

SOUTHWEST
Houston 67, Cincinnati 62
Marshall 93, Rice 80

Thursday's women's scores

Friday, Feb. 16

EAST
Iona 55, St. Peter's 31
Louisville 87, Boston College 52
Siena 56, Manhattan 54
Syracuse 68, Duke 65

SOUTH
Alabama 72, Tennessee 63
Appalachian St. 57, South Alabama 56
Austin Peay 53, Tennessee Tech 52
Belmont 95, E. Kentucky 62
Charlotte 64, Louisiana Tech 51
Coastal Carolina 84, Troy 71
ETSU 82, Wofford 53
Florida St. 91, Clemson 43
Furman 50, Chattanooga 45
George Mason 65, VCU 42
Georgia Tech 79, North Carolina 61
Jacksonville St. 59, Murray 55
Kentucky 78, Arkansas 57
LSU 84, Mississippi 55
Marshall 66, UTEP 64
Mercer 53, W. Carolina 46
Miami 82, Pittsburgh 58
Missouri 59, Auburn 51
Morehead St. 71, Tennessee St. 69
Notre Dame 83, Virginia 69
Purdue 75, Maryland 65
Samford 60, UNC-Greensboro 53
South Carolina 77, Georgia 65
Texas State 56, Louisiana-Lafayette 53
Texas-Arlington 80, Louisiana-Mon-roe 53
UAB 70, Rice 63
Ut Martin 72, SIU-Edwardsville 64
W. Kentucky 76, Middle Tennessee 60
Wake Forest 73, Virginia Tech 56

MIDWEST
Cleveland St. 71, Green Bay 60
Detroit 73, Ill.-Chicago 60
IUPUI 73, Oakland 55
N. Dakota St. 66, Fort Wayne 52
Youngstown St. 86, Milwaukee 85

SOUTHWEST
North Texas 71, Southern Miss. 62
Texas A&M 85, Florida 80

FAIR WEST
BYU 78, Pepperdine 43

Florida at Calgary, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, 12 p.m.
Edmonton at Colorado, 3 p.m.
New Jersey at Carolina, 5 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Florida at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Dallas at San Jose, 8 p.m.

Thursday's Canes sum

DEVILS 5, HURRICANES 2

Carolina	1	1	0=2
New Jersey	1	2	2=5

First Period: Carolina, Skinner 19 (Williams, Rask), 17:20. 2, New Jer-sey, Severson 9 (Hischer), 19:41.

Second Period: 3, New Jersey, No-esen 6 (Wood, Zajac), 6:48. 4, Caro-lina, Pesce 3 (Williams, Slavin), 7:43. 5, New Jersey, Palmieri 14 (Moore, Hatcher), 17:28.

Third Period: 6, New Jersey, Hischer 11 (Kinkaid, Hall), 8:06. 7, New Jersey, Noesen 7 (Severson), 8:38.

Shots on Goal-Carolina 6-11-12-29. New Jersey 9-9-4-22.

Power-play opportunities-Carolina 0 (New Jersey 0 of 2).

Goalies-Carolina, Darling 10-15-6 (22 shots-17 saves). New Jersey, Kinkaid 12-7-2 (29-27).

A-14,079 (16,514). T-2,222.

Referees-Tim Peel, Kyle Rehman. Linesmen-Derek Nansen, Andrew Smith.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with C Ryan Hanigan on a mi-nor league contract.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Agreed to terms with LHP Jaime Garcia on a one-year contract.

National League
CINCINNATI REDS — Voided the con-tract of RHP Jeff Mansph. Agreed to terms with INF Cliff Pennington on a minor league contract.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Named Daniel Fumai chief financial officer. Agreed to a minor league contract with LHP Wade Miley.

NEW YORK METS — Agreed to terms with OF Matt Den Dekker to a minor league contract.

Atlantic League
LONG ISLAND DUCKS — Signed LHP Jake Fischer.

Can-Am League
NEW JERSEY JACKALS — Traded RHP Kent Hooten to Kansas City (AA) for S. Kansas Lemon.

SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS — Released INF Nick Giarraputo and RHP Hector Nelo.

BASKETBALL

Women's National Basketball Association
LOS ANGELES SPARKS — Named Mi-chael Fischer assistant general man-ager.

FOOTBALL

National Football League
NFL — Announced Cincinnati Ben-gals' QB AJ McCarron has won his arbitration case against and will be-come an unrestricted free agent.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Named Mike Shula offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, Tyke Tolbert wide receivers coach, Hal Hunter of-fensive line coach, Ben Wilkerson as-sistant offensive line coach, James Bettcher defensive coordinator, Gary Emanuel defensive line coach, Lou Anarumo defensive backs coach, Deshaea Townsend assistant defensive backs coach, Thomas Mc-Gaughey special teams coordinator and Anthony Blevins assistant special teams coach. Retained Craig Johnson running backs coach, Lunda Wells tight ends coach, Ryan Ro-eder offensive assistant coach, Bill McGovern linebackers coach, Rob Leonard assistant linebackers coach and Bobby Blick defensive assistant coach.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Recalled G Jean-Francois Berube from Rock-ford (AHL). Assigned G Jeff Jack-to Rockford. Acquired C Chris DiDo-monic from Ottawa for P Pokka and assigned DiDomenic to Rockford.

COLORADO AVALANCHE — Reas-signed F Rocco Grimaldi to San An-tonio (AHL).

American Hockey League
SAN ANTONIO RAMPAGE — Reas-signed FS Brady Shady and Julien Nantelet to Colorado (ECHL).

SOCCER

Major League Soccer
SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Signed G Eric Dick and D Graham Smith to one-year contracts.

COLLEGE

ALBANY (NY)-Named Kevin Cardoza assistant volleyball coach.

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN — Named Chad Scott assistant athletic direc-tor of student-athlete development and Connor Klekota men's assistant soccer coach.

CITADEL — Named Dave Zelenock women's volleyball coach.

COASTAL CAROLINA — Named T.J. Hollowell assistant football coach.

FURMAN — Named Andre' Bernardi director of strength training and conditioning.

HAMPTON — Named Scott McCon-nell tight ends coach and Hunter Wil-liams director of football operations.

NYU — Named Matt DeMichiel men's and women's assistant tennis coach.

NORTH CAROLINA — Named Luke Paschall assistant football coach.

SIENA — Named Vilis Ozols volleyball coach.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Named George Wynn director of football operations and Ethan Pfeister women's assis-tant volleyball coach.

TEXAS — Fired track coach Mario Sategna.

NASCAR

Can-Am Duel Results

Thursday's qualifying: race Sunday
At Daytona International Speedway
Daytona Beach, Fla.
(Car number in parentheses)

Race 1

- (8) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 63.
- (6) Joey Logano, Ford, 63.
- (13) Darrell Wallace Jr., Chevrolet, 63.
- (5) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 63.
- (9) Kurt Busch, Ford, 63.
- (11) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 63.
- (20) David Ragan, Ford, 63.
- (4) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 63.
- (12) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 63.
- (10) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 63.
- (14) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 63.
- (16) Brendan Gaughan, Chevrolet, 63.
- (18) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 63.
- (1) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 63.
- (17) Justin Marks, Chevrolet, 63.
- (10) Brad Keselowski, Ford, Acci-dent, 57.
- (19) David Gilliland, Ford, Acci-dent, 47.
- (3) William Byron, Chevrolet, Ac-cident, 38.
- (2) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, A-cident, 8.
- (20) Aric Almirola, Ford, Accident, 8.

Average Speed of Race Winner: 138.124 mph.

Time of Race: 1 Hrs, 08 Mins, 25 Secs. Margin of Victory: 0.207 Seconds.

Caution Flags: 4 for 14 laps.

Lead Changes: 4 among 3 drivers.

Lap Leaders: J. Logano 1-11; J. Marks 12; J. Logano 13-57; R. Blaney 58-63.

Leaders' Summary (Driver, Times Lead, Laps Led): J. Logano 2 times for 56 laps; R. Blaney 1 time for 6 laps; J. Marks 1 time for 1 lap.

Race 2

- (5) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 60.
- (2) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 60.
- (3) Erik Jones, Toyota, 60.
- (4) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 60.
- (2) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 60.
- (7) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 60.
- (6) Paul Menard, Ford, 60.
- (10) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 60.
- (1) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 60.
- (15) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 60.
- (12) Michael McDowell, Ford, 60.
- (13) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 60.
- (9) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 60.
- (14) Danica Patrick, Chevrolet, 60.
- (17) DJ Kennington, Toyota, 58.
- (16) Laps Led: J. Logano 2 times for 56 laps; R. Blaney 1 time for 6 laps; J. Marks 1 time for 1 lap.

Average Speed of Race Winner: 181.879 mph.

Time of Race: 00 Hrs, 49 Mins, 29 Secs. Margin of Victory: 0.081 Sec-onds.

Caution Flags: 1 for 3 laps.

Lead Changes: 6 among 4 drivers.

Lap Leaders: D. Hamlin 1-13; G. Gauding 14; K. Harvick 15; D. Hamlin 16; K. Harvick 17-22; D. Hamlin 23-26; C. Elliott 27-60.

Leaders' Summary (Driver, Times Lead, Laps Led): C. Elliott 1 time for 34 laps; D. Hamlin 3 times for 18 laps; K. Harvick 2 times for 7 laps; G. Gauding 1 time for 1 lap.

Delays done, Shiffrin wins Olympic giant slalom gold

By Howard Fendrich
AP Sports Writer

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — The nervous energy accumulated for Mikaela Shiffrin while she waited, waited, waited for these Olympics — the ones that so many are expecting to be HER Olympics — to finally get started. First one race was postponed. Then another.

And so it was not until a week into the Pyeongchang Games that Shiffrin and the other female Alpine skiers got to compete in the rescheduled giant slalom, an event the 22-year-old American considers a work in progress for her. In second place and still feeling some jitters after the first of Thursday's two runs, Shiffrin did two things during the 3½ hours before the deciding leg of the GS: She took a nap, and then she sneaked onto the adjacent men's course at Yongpong Alpine Center for a little free skiing.

"Then," said Shiffrin's mother, Eileen, who is also a coach, "I think she was just like, 'I'm ready. I'm doing this.'"

Sure was. And sure did.

On a crisp, clear day with very little sign of the gusts that have played havoc with the skiing program, Shiffrin dealt well with her pent-up emotions and put together a pair of aggressive, if not quite perfect, trips through the gates to win the giant slalom for the second Olympic gold medal of her precocious career.

No American Alpine skier has won more.

"Definitely, it's been a mental strain the last couple days,

thinking we're going to race and then not racing. So to finally have the race actually happen today, I was like, 'Well, I really hope that I actually can do it when the time comes that we finally race.' And, yeah, I did," said Shiffrin, who is based in Colorado. "So now we got the ball rolling. I'm really excited for tomorrow."

As well she should be.

That's because Friday brings the slalom, by far Shiffrin's best event, one that she has dominated for five years, including a gold at the 2014 Sochi Games plus a trio of world titles. She is a huge favorite in that one, unlike the giant slalom, in which Shiffrin was merely a strong contender. After that, Shiffrin will skip Saturday's super-G, according to her mom, because there's no time to properly prepare. She still intends to enter the downhill and combined.

"I don't think it gets any easier, but I think she can take a deep breath and say, 'The pressure's off a little bit. Maybe,'" said her father, Jeff. "She'll just approach it the way she's always approached it: It's left-right-left-right-left-right, forget about the result."

In this instance, the result was a two-run time of 2 minutes, 20.02 seconds, good enough to beat surprise silver medalist Ragnhild Mowinckel of Norway by 0.39 seconds and Federica Brignone of Italy by 0.46. First-run leader Manuela Moelgg of Italy quickly gave away her 0.20-second advantage over Shiffrin and was eighth.

Mowinckel helped make it



Mikaela Shiffrin celebrates her gold medal during the venue ceremony at the Women's Giant Slalom at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea on Thursday. AP

a three-medal Alpine day for Norway: Aksel Lund Svindal won the men's downhill about 30 miles away at the Jeongseon Alpine Center, and Kjetil Jansrud got silver. Switzerland's Beat Feuz was third in a race originally scheduled for Sunday. Svindal, 35, is the oldest man to win Olympic gold in Alpine skiing.

At Yongpong, Shiffrin found some problems in the choppy terrain of the second half of the 51-gate GS course, in part because nearby trees created shadows that made it tough to see.

But she wasn't the only one: Her first run was second-fastest; her other was fourth-fastest.

"She attacked both runs, and that's how we do it. It was the good way to do things," said France's Tessa Worley, the reigning world champion, who had a

poor opening run and was seventh. "She wanted this medal, and we could see it."

Said Brignone: "She is much stronger than the rest of us right now — not physically, but mentally, and with the way she works and prepares."

That last part is key to appreciating the way Shiffrin regrouped and performed in a race originally slated for Monday. Mostly terrific on the World Cup circuit this season — winning 10 of 23 races she's entered to lead the overall standings — she stumbled in late January and failed to finish three of her last four races.

She acknowledged mental fatigue and took a couple of days off.

Definitely looked refreshed in the giant slalom, with which she contends she has "a love-hate

relationship" because it doesn't come as naturally as the slalom.

Maybe so.

Yet after that hour's snooze in a lodge atop the mountain, followed by the impromptu skiing session with Mom, Shiffrin was able to perform at her best, which clearly is good enough.

"She brought out a lot more natural skiing in the second run that was far less rigid," coach Mike Day said. "To me, it was far more free."

After finishing, Shiffrin put her right glove on her chest, mouth agape. She paused and put her poles atop her neon helmet. She covered her ski goggles with both hands, taking the moment in.

Only briefly, though. There is more work to be done.

And perhaps more medals to be won.

Russian fans, but not athletes, flying flags

By James Ellingworth
AP Sports Writer

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — Ilya Kovalchuk has a rule for any fans wanting an Olympic selfie — put the Russian flag away.

The forward for the "Olympic Athletes from Russia" hockey team is worried about breaking International Olympic Committee sanctions imposed on Russia after its Sochi doping scandal.

Athletes compete in neutral uniforms and have to sign a document saying they won't protest the ruling that turned Team Russia into OAR.

"We won't chase (fans) away" if they're carrying Russian flags, Kovalchuk said Tuesday. "If there's an IOC rule then we'll talk to them, explain it and take a photograph without the flag."

In the stands, though, Russian fans can be as patriotic as they like.

They've been a loud and proud presence at events like hockey, biathlon and figure skating, wrapped in flags and chanting in Russian. Many say they want to dress up to compensate for their athletes' drab neutral uniforms.

The fans made the half-full Gangneung Hockey Center ring with chants during the Russian



Fans cheer for Olympic athletes from Russia during the third period of the preliminary round of the women's hockey game between the United States and the team from Russia at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Gangneung, South Korea on Tuesday. AP

hockey team's opening game against Slovakia on Wednesday but were left disappointed in defeat. A line of Russian women danced with pompoms, a Soviet flag flew and South Koreans lined up for selfies with a man dressed in a bear costume. "Russia is a big country and a great power," read the inscription on one Russian flag.

"We're shouting so much that our voices are going," said a fan who identified himself only as Andrei. "We're just devoting ourselves to it and supporting our athletes, because there's not so many people here from our country."

Many fans wore replicas of the Olympic uniform Russians had been due to wear before the IOC punishment came down in Decem-

ber.

Andrei Savinov, a 53-year-old from Moscow who deals in wood, hunted for souvenirs at the Olympic Park with his wife, both decked out in Russian uniforms from the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

"We bought the uniform specially so that Russianness is at least visible somehow," said Savinov. The couple bought Olympic tickets hoping to see Russian medals in the speedskating, but top skaters Denis Yuskov and Pavel Kulizhnikov were banned by the IOC.

"Yuskov and Kulizhnikov were important. They were real gold medals," said Savinov, who's now planning to watch hockey and looking for spare tickets to other events.

Svindal wins Olympic downhill to become oldest Alpine champ

By Graham Dunbar
AP Sports Writer

JEONGSEON, South Korea — As he approached his 35th birthday, Aksel Lund Svindal didn't always feel like he would make Olympic history as the oldest Alpine gold medalist.

His body felt the strain of too many high-speed crashes and season-ending surgeries, and it wouldn't let him train at the high intensity he likes.

Fast forward two months from December, and no one was quicker on the downhill course at the Pyeongchang Olympics.

"I am old," said the tough Norwegian, confirming this would be his last Olympics. "So I guess this is the beginning of the end somehow."

He certainly made his last chance count on Thursday, finally getting the only downhill honor missing from an impressive career.

Svindal finished 0.12 seconds faster than teammate and close friend Kjetil Jansrud, making up lost time on a masterful ski on the bottom half of the 1 ½-mile (2.9-kilometer) course.

Beat Feuz of Switzerland took bronze. The world champion — and the standout racer of the classic World Cup downhills in January — was 0.18 behind Svindal's winning time of 1 minute, 40.25 seconds.

The new year brought new hope for Svindal that his body would hold up for the Olympics.

"I was struggling in the beginning of the season," he said, acknowledging the impact of landing four jumps Thursday that made him creak a little.

"Definitely the jumps were longer today, I felt that, but it's working better than I feared in December."

Even getting to South Korea was a little voyage

into the unknown for Svindal, who ended his past two seasons in January for surgery on his knees.

Both were a direct result of a fearsome crash in Kitzbuehel, Austria, in January 2016.

"This is basically the first year I've skied in February for four years or something like that," Svindal said. "I've been in the hospital every other year."

The 2016 crash ensured he missed the Olympic test event in South Korea two years ago, which Jansrud won.

The postponement of Sunday's scheduled downhill due to fierce winds bought valuable time and an extra look at the course in the opening part of the combined event on Tuesday.

In that race, Svindal was faster than Jansrud in the downhill for the first time.

At race-time Thursday, there was near-perfect calm and cold conditions. It was 34 degrees Fahrenheit (1 degree Celsius) under sunshine and blue skies with only a few wispy clouds.

Svindal had uneasy moments, as if tricked by snow made harder and faster by days of buffeting from the wind.

He went wide at one turn and fought through the air off one jump while posting the eventual eighth-fastest time at the mid-point.

Fighting for his title, Svindal clawed it all back and punched the air with his left fist after seeing he had beaten then-leader Feuz.

"I think I pushed just to the right amount and felt fast," said the new Olympic champion, who never led at a time split until the finish.

At 35, Svindal is three months older than Mario Matt was in 2014 when the Austrian won the Olympic slalom.

The oldest Olympic

West Coast viewers win despite ratings slide

By David Bauder
AP Media Writer

NEW YORK — Highlights from media coverage of the Pyeongchang Olympics:

RATINGS

If the ratings were an Olympic race, NBC slipped a few seconds off its pace on Wednesday. The Nielsen company said 19.2 million people watched competition in prime time on NBC, the cable network NBCSN and through streaming services, down 8 percent from the 20.8 million who watched NBC for the corresponding night at the Sochi Olympics four years ago. An

estimated 17.2 million watched NBC alone, or 17 percent off Sochi.

PRIME TIME PLUS

NBC decided this year to air its Olympic telecast at the same time across the country, and that paid off for West Coast viewers in the U.S. with Thursday's competition in Korea.

They were able to see Mikaela Shiffrin win her giant slalom gold medal live in a prime viewing window, right before 10 p.m. Pacific on Wednesday.

In past years, West Coast viewers were stuck watching reruns of an East Coast feed that aired three

hours earlier.

TRYING AGAIN

NBC prepared a strong feature on American snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis, a four-time Olympian sadly known best to many for falling while making an unnecessary jump at the end of a race she was dominating, costing her a sure gold medal in the 2006 Turin Games. Curiously, producers aired it around 1 a.m. Thursday on the East Coast, right before a men's qualifying round in snowboarding.

Let's hope it gets another life around the time she competes, because anyone who sees the story will want to root for her.

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Public Notices

ADMINISTRATION NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Alice Ellis Garner**, deceased, does hereby notify anyone having claims against the Deceased to present the same to the undersigned on or before **April 27, 2018**, said date being at least three months from the date of the publication or the same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment.

This the 26th day of January, 2018.

Patrica Garner Kirby
Executrix
5928 Ervin Place
Elm City, NC 27822
1:26;2:2,9,16/2018

NOTICE OF SALE

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Doris Kent	077

2:16/2018

ADMINISTRATION NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Gerald Blount**, deceased, does hereby notify anyone having claims against the Deceased to present the same to the undersigned on or before **May 17, 2018**, said date being at least three months from the date of the publication or the same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment.

This the 16th day of February, 2018.

Patricia Blount
Administratrix
6729 Jaycross Road
Fremont, NC 27830
2:16,23;3:2,9/2018

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Having qualified as the Executor of the Estate of **Mary Ann Holt** of Wilson County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned on or before **April 30, 2018** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment.

Michael N. Holt
Executor
Allen G. Thomas
Thomas Law, P.A.
P.O. Box 2848
Wilson, NC 27894-2848
(252) 243-3000
1:26;2:2,9,16/2018

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WILSON

The undersigned Administratrix of the Estate of **Pennie Knight** gives notice that all claims against said decedent are to be presented to the undersigned on or before **April 26, 2018** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate, please make immediate payment.

This notice is given pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 28A-14-1.

This the 26th day of January 2018

Yvonne Collins, Administratrix
Jason R. Page
Attorney for Administratrix
Post Office Box 1724
Wilson, NC 27894
1:26;2:2,9,16/2018

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION BEFORE THE CLERK NORTH CAROLINA WILSON COUNTY

File No.: 17-SP-230
AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of the Deed of Trust of **Tanner B. Ellis** and **Candi M. Price**, Mortgagors-Grantors to Windy H. Rose, Substitute Trustee And United States of America, acing through the Rural Housing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Noteholder.

Under the virtue of an order of the Clerk of Superior Court of Wilson County, entered in the above-entitled action authorizing the undersigned to proceed with the foreclosure of the above-referenced Deed of Trust under which Deed of Trust a Substitution of Trustee instrument was recorded in Deed Book 2711 Page 738 in the office of the Register of Deeds of Wilson County, North Carolina, whereby the undersigned was substituted as Trustee under the provisions of said Deed of Trust and under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the above-referenced Deed of Trust the undersigned substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at **1:00 p.m. on February 21, 2018** in Wilson County, North Carolina, the following described property:

BEING Lot 3 upon a plat entitled "Section 3, Knollwood" which map is recorded in Plat Book 27, page 8, Wilson County Registry.

The above-described will be sold subject to ALL UNPAID TAXES, including unpaid county and city ad valorem taxes, including those for the year 2018, and also city assessments, if any. The buyer of the property shall be responsible for all taxes upon transfer, including excise tax and land transfer tax.

The record owners of the property as reflected on he records of the Register of Deeds' office not more than ten (10) days prior to posting of this notice are **Tanner B. Ellis** and **Candi M. Price**.

The highest bidder at the sale will be required to make a cash deposit of \$750.00 or five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid when knocked down to him, whichever is greater, and the balance upon confirmation of the sale.

The sale will be reported to the court and will remain open for advance or upset bids for a period of ten (10) days. If no advance or upset bids are filed with the Clerk of Superior Court, the sale will be confirmed.

This the 18th day of January, 2018.

Windy H. Rose
Attorney at Law
State Bar No.: 28084
P. O. Box 54
Columbia, NC 27925
(252) 796-4600
2:9,16/2018

Public Notices

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

18 E 68
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Wanda Mae Anderson** of Wilson County, NC, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate to present them to the undersigned on or before **May 3, 2018** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate please make immediate payment.

Sandra S. Stephens, Executrix
Janice A. Walston, Attorney
PO Box 279
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2:2,9,16,23/2018

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reply to: debbievic@centurylink.net

Help Wanted Miscellaneous

C&W Services is now hiring FT & PT Custodian Workers in Wilson, NC
SUMMARY OF DUTIES:
Cleaning and sanitizing different areas located throughout the plant.
QUALIFICATIONS:
•Education: Possess a high school degree or an approved GED.
•Experience: 6 months to 1 year experience in Janitorial/Custodial applications. Please send resumes to: roger.tee@cwservices.com.

TRAVEL AGENT

Start your own business and work from home. Call for more info.
252-290-5030.

Western Sizzlin of Wilson is now hiring for all positions. Please apply in person Tues.-Fri., 2-5pm. Drug screen & background check req. **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!**

Sales/Marketing

Log home manufacturer seeking Experienced Sales Professionals at Battleboro, NC facility. Fresh leads distributed daily. No cold calling. Salary commensurate with experience plus commission.
Forward resume to
joycewilkins@elohomes.com.

Statewides

FTCC Fayetteville Technical Community College is now accepting applications for the following positions: Senior Network Communications Technician & Industry Training Instructor. For detailed information and to apply, please visit our employment portal at: <https://faytechcc.peopleadmin.com/> Human Resources Office Phone:(910) 678-7342 Internet: <http://www.faytechcc.edu> An Equal Opportunity Employer

EARN \$500 A DAY: Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance Wants Insurance Agents • Leads, No Cold Calls • Commissions Paid Daily • Agency Training • Life License Required. Call 1-888-713-6020

SAVE YOUR HOME! Are you behind paying your MORTGAGE? Denied a Loan Modification? Is the bank threatening foreclosure? CALL Homeowner's Relief Line! FREE CONSULTATION! 855-995-4199

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FINANCIAL

Business Opportunities

AUTOMATED BUSINESS
www.alturl.com/ymork
Lofton P. O. Box 1791
Wilson, NC 27894

RENTALS

Apartments

2BR Duplex For Rent
On London Church Rd.
Call 252-289-5090

Brick 3 Bedroom 1.5 Bath house. Living Room, Kitchen, Dining Room Combination, Carport, \$750/mo. 706 Parker Street, Elm City.
Call (252) 363-9141.

Forest Hills Manor

Applications being taken for 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments in Wilson. Affordable Section 8 community with rent based on income. Professional staff, 24 hr. on call maintenance.  EHO

Sharp Rd, SHARPSBURG. 2 Bedroom Townhome. Central Heat & Air Carpeted. \$495 mo/. Call Simmons & Harris Realty (252) 977-1616.

Commercial Lease

FOR SALE OR LEASE
Office, general business, retail, light industrial & warehouse space. First Venture Properties, LLC. Call 252-237-9411.

House For Rent

Davis Rentals
2 & 3 Bedroom Units and Houses
4710 West Nash St.
252-291-1656

House for Rent
7243 Healthy Plains Church Road
Sims NC, 3 BR 2 1/2 Bath, \$1000 per month with \$1000 deposit.
Call 252-236-7219

REAL ESTATE

MOBILE HOMES

Manufactured Homes For Rent

2 & 3 Bedroom Mobile Homes for Rent in Black Creek, No Pets. Call (252)291-0989

Nice, small mobile home... Perfect for single person, Call 230-7702 Please Leave Message

PETS

Dogs

German Shepherd Mix, Wearing a Black Collar with Batman Symbols, Last seen on Walnut Street & Raleigh Rd Pkwy W, Wilson NC. Please Call Malloy at: (917)915-5946
REWARD!!!

Lost Puppy.
Yorkie Mix Named Buddie, Lost between Wilson Preparatory & Deerfield on Tuesday 2/6/18. Please Call Catherine at: 252-290-8401
REWARD!!!

Found Lost Pets

IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE FATHER; GOD, THE SON; AND GOD, THE HOLY GHOST: I COMMAND, I DEMAND THAT HERSHEE BE RETURNED TO ME TODAY - ALIVE AND WELL, SAFE AND SOUND, AND HEALED! I BIND ON EARTH EVERY NEGATIVE FORCE/FORM AGAINST - AND LOOSE ON EARTH EVERY POSITIVE FORCE/FORM - FOR HERSHEE'S SAFE RETURN (THEY HAVE BEEN BOUND AND LOOSED IN HEAVEN!) MATTHEW 16:19, MATTHEW 21:22, MARK 11:23-24 LUKE 11:9, JOHN 14:13-14, JAMES 5:16, PSALM 150:6 PROVERBS 12:10, DANIEL 3:17-18, YOUR PRAYERS AND CALLS ARE APPRECIATED!
MISSING 02-28-13. Pit/Hound or Pit/Shepherd Mix. 50 Lbs. Female. Name: HerShee. 11 Years old. Brindle color (the colors of dark, milk & white chocolate, caramel & black). Bolted from owner in fear of medical treatment at For The Love Of Dogs, Quaker Road, Wilson, NC Needs medical care; and, by now, she is hungry, cold, hot, wet, and still scared. Had a silver chain collar with I.D. Tag, and a purple leash. \$100 REWARD. 252-399-9717 (English) (Do not have voicemail) 252-315-9204 (Spanish or English) Has Voicemail.
PICTURE LOCATED ON CRAIGSLIST
Eastern North Carolina, Community Lost & Found & at Lake Wilson

ALERT STILL MISSING!! White Boxer with Brindle spots, name LADY. Last seen July 23rd on Bloomery Rd, between Packhouse Rd and Raleigh Rd. Please call (252) 363-4751 Weighs approx. 75 pds, will answer to her name, friendly PLEASE PLEASE help us, her family misses her.



CLAW FEET Solid Maple Table, Leaf Lazy Susan, 6 Latter Back Chairs, \$300.00. Call (252)315-0896 or (252)291-2694

STUFF

Quick Sellers

Captain's Bed with Drawers, Mattress and Linens. \$300.00 OBO. Call (252) 291-6508.

Claw Feet Solid Maple Table, Leaf Lazy Susan, 6 Latter Back Chairs, \$300.00. Call (252)315-0896 or (252)291-2694

Cloth Green Sofa with 1 end table. Good Condion. Lots of Pillows. \$75. Call (252) 289-7994.

Electric Wheel Chair. Alainte Jr. Two Brand New Batteries. Good Working Condition. Holds up to 250 lbs. Comes with a charger. \$325. Call (252) 289-7994.



Leather Sofa with Queen Bed & Leather Arm Chair For Sale! Brown. \$400 for the Set. Call (252) 532-3760

Garage/Yard Sale

Eagles Nest Church Of God Indoor FREE Store
5015 Four tenths rd. Elm City
Friday 9am-7pm & Saturday 9am-1pm
252-230-0873 for directions or more info. Some of everything.

ELM CITY RESALE MARKET
4723 Elm City Rd. (Old Hwy. 301 S.), Elm City. 252-236-4000, Thurs, Fri, Sat, 10am-5pm, Offering: Kitchen Items, Gifts, Toys, Tools, Furniture, Home Deco & Lots More at Prices you will Appreciate. New Arrivals Often. Cash, Debit, MasterCard, Visa Accepted.
Layaway Available, Buy, Sell, Trade with Us. Call (919) 709-8127
www.facebook.com/elmcityresalemarket

Merchandise For Sale

3 Piece King Size Bedroom Suite White with Green Trimming, Drawer Attached to Bed Frame, Like New, Includes Box Spring & Mattress, \$700. Call (252)230-4384

6 Tobacco Barns, 18 box Insulated, Retro, Gas Burner Aluminum Rods, Excellent Condition. Call (910)653-3022 or (910)234-0202

Rock & Top Soil For Sale
Call (252)291-1933

JAZZY POWER CHAIR, EX CONDITION, \$700
NEG, SHOWER CHAIR, \$250, BRAND NEW.
CALL (252)237-7586

MOVING SALE
Everyday, 12 Noon-5pm
7211 Walter Drive, Lucama
Contents of House, Household Items, Furn, Bedroom Sets, Dining Room Set, End Tables. Last Chance, EVERYTHING MUST GO!!!

RECREATIONAL

Vehicle, Boat & RV Storage Available.
Contact 252-289-6304 for Details and Rates

Motorcycles/ATV's



2006 Honda VTX 1800 Nv2 Neo-Retro Titanium \$9500 or \$8500, if sold before 2-28-18. Clean Title, lots of Chrome, Mustang Seats, Power Commander 3 Custom mapped, Cobra Long Shots, Highway Bars w/foot pegs, Lots More!!
Email: BronYrAur420@gmail.com for Complete Details.

Cars

2000 Nissan Sentra. 4 door sedan. Burgundy. A/C runs good. AM/FM Radio & CD Player w/ Aux input. Good Condition. Serious inquiries only. \$1200 Firm. Call (252) 813-0375 & leave a message.

2003 BMW 325i. Silver. Runs great! 185k miles. Black Leather Interior. Sun Roof. Heated Seats. \$2,500.00. New Water Pump. New Starter. Driven Daily. Call (919) 356-7819.

Honda Fit, '09, Sport
4 dr AT, 61,500 mi.
Check Blue Book, Consumer Reports \$5400
Call 252-991-4413

ACROSS

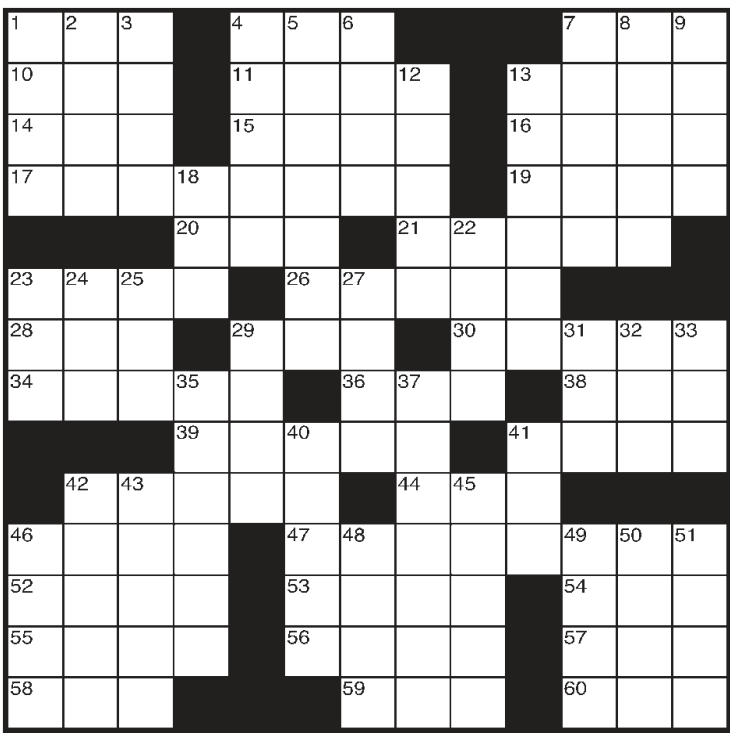
- 1 Water-power org.
- 4 "Big Blue"
- 7 Interest amt.
- 10 Hoop site
- 11 Wordy Webster
- 13 Trevi Fountain coins
- 14 Picnic pest
- 15 Quartet minus one
- 16 Egress
- 17 Small falcons
- 19 Kind of capsule
- 20 "Maggie May" singer
- 21 Snicker (hyph.)
- 23 Stand up to
- 26 Honshu port
- 28 Actor — Brynner
- 29 Audi rival
- 30 Spiral-horned antelope
- 34 Clean a slate

36 NASA

- destination
- 38 Debtor's letters
- 39 Comb projections
- 41 Wide st.
- 42 Squeeze
- 44 Before, in verse
- 46 General vicinity
- 47 Dazzling
- 52 Ilsa's love
- 53 — Stanley Gardner
- 54 Ginza buy
- 55 Cookie man
- 56 Enjoy a hot tub
- 57 Toshiba rival
- 58 Censor
- 59 Lenovo products
- 60 Hack

DOWN

- 1 Salad bowl wood



2-16

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LITET

TLASN

TAVLYS

EGNEVA

Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's

Jumbles: STUNG HALVE EMBARK GYPSUM

Answer: When B.B. King passed away in 2015, his fans — SANG THE BLUES

Answer to Previous Puzzle



- 2 Windmill blade
- 3 Sculpture and dance
- 4 Opening remarks
- 5 Monotony
- 6 Body armor
- 7 Sprite

- 8 Illegal act
- 9 Monsieur's pate
- 12 Shade-loving plant
- 13 Deadly
- 18 Take a crack at
- 22 Barely scrapes by
- 23 Batik need
- 24 U.K. locale
- 25 Marlins' st.
- 27 "Hot Lips" Houlihan
- 29 Busy ones
- 31 Run a fever
- 32 Autumn mo.
- 33 Lead balloon
- 35 Rib-eyes
- 37 Trounce
- 40 Mountain curves
- 41 Pa Cartwright
- 42 — donna
- 43 Spy mission
- 45 Stinks
- 46 Burnoose wearer
- 48 Gun, on stage
- 49 Lady of Spain
- 50 Wild goat
- 51 Chop finely

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